

UNIFORM PROTOCOL FOR HEARING AID RECOMMENDATION AND OUTCOME MEASURES – CHILDREN

1. CASE HISTORY:

Detailed history of family, birth history (prenatal, natal and post natal), medical history, educational history and amplification history if any

2. OTOSCOPY:

Otoscopic examination is mandatory (to be done by Audiologist or Otolaryngologist) before audiological assessment, ear impression taking.

3. HEARING ASSESSMENT :

Test battery approach is to be followed using physiological and behavioural tests.

- Physiological tests should include ABR, OAE and Immittance evaluation. ASSR may be carried out if required.
- Behavioural tests should include BOA/VRA/Play audiometry depending on the age and associated problems. Speech audiometry should be carried out for verbal children and response to Ling's six sound test, warble tones, NBN, learning to listen sounds should be assessed in nonverbal children.

Hearing assessment in real life situation- testing at 1, 3, 5 feet (unaided)

Distance in feet	/a/	/i/	/u/	/m/	/s/	/ʃ/
1 Feet						
3 Feet						
5 Feet						
9 Feet						

NOTE: - Mark 'd' for detection, and 'i' for identification

4. PRE- FITTING COUNSELLING TO PARENTS/CARE GIVERS :

Explaining in detail the diagnosis, management options, hearing aid trial and fitting procedures, cost of hearing aids and maintenance cost, need for therapy.

5. HEARING AID SELECTION, TRIAL & FITTING

6. AIDED ASSESSMENTS:

- Aided sound field evaluation (thresholds for warble tones, Ling's 6 sounds)
- Aided testing in real life situation- testing at 1, 3, 5, 9 feet

Distance in feet	/a/	/i/	/u/	/m/	/s/	/ʃ/
1 feet						
3 feet						
5 feet						
9 feet						

Note: - mark 'd' for detection, and 'i' for identification

7. DIFFICULT TO TEST CASES

Children who are difficult to test behaviourally may be tested using objective measures.

8. NOTE CHILD'S RESPONSE TO DAILY ENVIRONMENTAL SOUNDS.

9. EARLY SPEECH PERCEPTION TEST (IN INDIAN LANGUAGES).

10. TESTING FOR TOLERANCE LEVELS

11. QUESTIONNAIRE BASED ASSESSMENTS

- IT-MAIS, PRE- AND POST FITTING (1, 3, 6 MONTHS)
- Questionnaire on educational setting for children attending mainstream schooling (student-teacher ratio, child's seating arrangement in class, academic performance)

12. POST FITTING MEASURES:

- 3 FORTNIGHTLY SESSIONS (FOR ACCLIMATISATION, OPTIMISATION, FINE TUNNING FOR HEARING AIDS)
 - DATA LOG FOR PARENTS (PROFORMA TO BE GIVEN BY THE PROFESSIONAL)
 - PARENT COUNSELLING FOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF HEARING AIDS
- ❖ REPORT BY PARENT ABOUT THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE DIAGNOSIS AND THE FURTHER TREATMENT
 - ❖ CONSENT FORM TO BE SIGNED BY PARENT/CAREGIVER FOR CHOICE OF HEARING AID, NEED FOR THERAPY
 - ❖ REPORT TO BE GIVEN