

Occupational Audiometry Fact Sheet

Protect the hearing health of your employees and stay compliant with audiometric testing.



Your legal requirements

Occupational Audiometric Testing is a requirement for persons conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) whose workers must frequently wear hearing protection (The Work Health and Safety Regulations (2021, Chapter 4, Part 1, Section 58). Testing should be undertaken by a qualified person in accordance with AS/NZS 1269.4:2014 Occupational noise management – Auditory assessment.

All industries can benefit from hearing tests as part of their pre-employment process. It can help identify any pre-existing hearing loss which may impact an employee's ability to perform the role. From this initial baseline, regular audiometry testing also helps ensure your employees maintain healthy, normal hearing.

Noise at work risk

Workers are at risk of hearing loss when they're exposed to noise that exceeds the national exposure standard, which is:

- **An average of 85 decibels over 8 hours**
(e.g., repetitive noise from equipment and machinery)
- **A peak of 140 decibels**
(e.g., a one-off impact noise such as a sledgehammer blow)

Benefits of audiometric testing

- Detect and prevent hearing loss
- Reduce risk of ear injury
- Lower your workers' compensation premiums
- Meet your legislative requirements
- Boosts productivity

Our proven and reliable ACM approach:



Assess

Establish baseline hearing



Coach

Advise on hearing protection strategy



Monitor

Periodic review of hearing

What's involved?

SafeWork Australia's Code of Practice: Managing Noise and Preventing Hearing Loss at Work

(2020) You must provide audiometric testing:

- Within 3 months of the employee starting work
- At least every two years

Baseline tests

A baseline hearing test is conducted after the employee has avoided high-level noise for at least 16 hours, ensuring the ear is not fatigued and serves as a baseline for future monitoring.

Monitoring tests

Monitoring testing detects any significant changes in hearing, such as noise-induced hearing loss, without requiring quiet time before the test (AS/NZS 1269.4). It highlights any issues with the use of hearing protection.

Our Audiometric testing process

Audiometric testing can be carried out on-site or in one of our clinics. All tests are performed by qualified health professionals with high level training. Testing takes up to 20 minutes per employee depending on the complexity of the hearing test.

Step 1

The test begins with a questionnaire and discussion about the employees' history. This is followed by a quick ear check before the audiometric testing begins.

Step 2

Wearing headphones, the employee is asked to respond to sounds of different frequencies and decibels. The results are then discussed, and a report provided.

Step 3

If the test results indicate any hearing issues or loss, the employee may be recommended to repeat the test in three months and/or given a referral to a medical practitioner or audiologist.



Ensure hearing health in your workplace!

Enquire and make a booking
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Why choose Happy Health?



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Tests by qualified professionals



Onsite or in clinic appointments