

Potomac Ear, Nose and Throat

What to Expect:

Children (6 mos-5 years) Hearing Test/Audiogram:

The Audiologist will walk you and your child to the testing room. We perform our tests in a Calibrated Sound Booth.

The Audiologist will ask you, “What brings your child in?” and gain some history and/or symptoms.

We will use an Otoscope to look in your child’s ears for wax or signs of blockage.



We will perform a short check of how their eardrums are moving by placing a soft tipped probe at the opening of their ear canal. They will hear a low hum sound and feel a short pressure change or vibration/tickle in the ear. There is no pain associated with this test for most patients.

We will then attempt to test your child’s hearing using either Visual Reinforcement Audiometry (VRA) techniques (if they turn their head to the sound, they heard it and there is a toy/cartoon reward). We may also attempt Conditioned Play Audiometry (CPA) techniques (we practice how to listen for the tone and respond to the tones by putting a toy in a bucket or placing toy spikes in a toy porcupine. We either perform this testing in soundfield(with no headphones on) or we will attempt to place a set of red/blue headphones over their ears, or we will place soft, foam insert earphones/”pillows” into the opening of their ears.

If we can use headphones/earphones, we will attempt to practice gaining responses at an elevated level and then present the tones at softer levels. They will be very, very soft, but if they hear the beeps, they will likely respond.

We will step out of the booth and close the booth door for best results. You and your child will be able to see us through a window in the booth as we sit at the audiometer. We can hear you though our headset

and you/and your child will be able to hear us through our microphone. If there are ever any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask.

Note: There are patients that have a history of claustrophobia, in this case, we may not close the door to allow for ease of testing or decreased symptoms of nervousness.

Conditioned Play Audiometry (CPA)



Child is taught a play task in response to the onset of an acoustic stimulus

Children aged ~ 2-2.5 - 5 years



www.dechildrens.com

ENT for the PA-C, Apr 2012



We will present words for your child to respond to by turning their head or repeat (depending on age or capabilities). Some words are presented at a decreasing level, your child should try to repeat the words as well as they can.

We will also present additional words at a level your child is sure to hear the words. Again, they will attempt to repeat the words to the best of their ability (depending on age or capabilities).

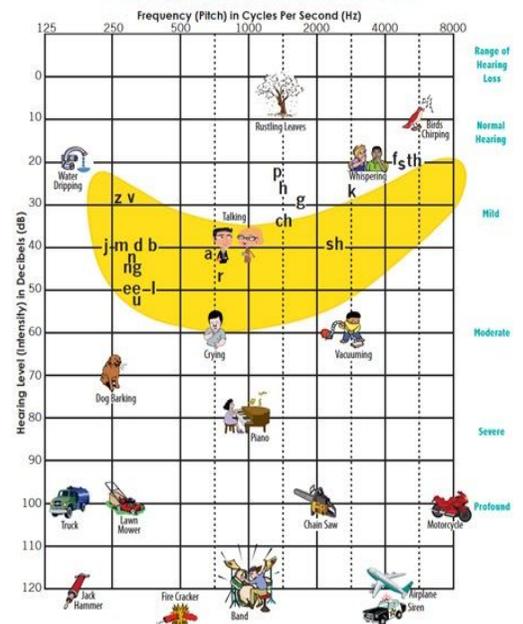


If necessary, we may need to assess your child's hearing thresholds using a bone conduction headband. This is a headband that will allow them to hear the tones through the skull. It is very simple and painless (however, not all children tolerate it). We may also need to use static noise for the test if tolerated for certain hearing loss results.

We may also attempt to perform a Distortion Product Otoacoustic Emissions (DPOAE) screen with your child. During this test, the child will need to sit quietly while an insert earphone/"pillow" is placed in the ear and soft tones are heard. They do not need to respond during this screen, the responses are obtained best while they are sitting quietly, not talking. We can often distract the child with cartoons on a phone or toys in the office. This is often used when we are unable to obtain ear specific results in the booth (the child did not tolerate anything on or in their ears or the child was unreliable with their responses to tones).

You are all done! We will proceed to explain the results of your child's hearing test and then have them see the ENT after the test for further discussion and/or treatment and follow up.

Audiogram of Familiar Sounds



Adapted from: American Academy of Audiology, www.audiology.org and Northern, J.R. Downs, M. DMD. Audiogram of familiar sounds, and Ling, D. & Ling, A. (1970). Aural Rehabilitation.

Note: Testing may not occur in this exact order given age or reliability of the patient.

