



GP Information Booklet

Audiology - The Hearing Centre
Tameside Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
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www.tamesidehospital.nhs.uk



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Who are we?

○ **Our Team**

- 1 Clinical Lead / Paediatric Specialist (Verity Langlands)
- 10 Senior Audiologists
- 2 Assistant Technical Officers (ATO)
- 2 Receptionists

We have close links with The University of Manchester and have students working with us

○ **Base**

- Audiology - The Hearing Centre
Yellow Suite
Hartshead Building North
Tameside and Glossop Intergrated Care
NHS Foundation Trust
Fountain Street
Ashton-under-Lyne
OL6 9RW

○ **Qualifications & Experience**

- Qualified via the BAAT, BSc or MSc Audiology training routes
- Continuing Professional Development

Our Services

Adults



- **Adult Service**
 - Adult Assessment & Management (AQP)
 - Adult ENT Support Sessions

- **Complex Adult Service**
 - Complex Adult Assessment & Management of Complex Hearing Losses & Aid Provision (non-AQP) including Severe and Profound Losses, CROS/Bi-CROS aids
 - Complex Adult Learning Disability - Assessment & Management
 - Complex Adults with Dementia - Assessment & Management
 - Complex Diagnostics, including Speech Testing, Speech in Noise Testing, Non-Organic Loss Testing, Speech Mapping
 - Audiology Led MRI pathway – asymmetrical hearing loss/tinnitus (*ENT approval gained & Awaiting Radiology approval*)
 - Sudden onset of Hearing Loss - Assessment & Management

Our Services

Adults



- **Tinnitus Assessment & Management**
 - Tinnitus information, management strategies, coping techniques, hearing aid provision, combination devices etc.

- **Wax Removal Service**
 - BSA Guidance Micro-suction for all routine patients
 - Complex Micro-suction (via ENT referral pathway)

- **Furthermore**
 - Well established community service to health centres in Tameside and Glossop (Appendix 3, Open-Access Clinic List)
 - Domiciliary Visits
 - Ward Visits at Tameside Hospital

Our Services

Paediatrics



- **Paediatric Service**

- Routine Paediatric Assessment, Management & Hearing Aid Provision.
- Complex Paediatric Assessment, Management & Hearing Aid Provision.
- Routine ABR (Auditory Brainstem Response) Testing
- Complex ABR (Auditory Brainstem Response)
- Paediatric ENT Support Sessions.

- **Transition Service (Starting in 2021)**

Multi-Disciplinary Services



- **Currently our department works very closely with:**
 - ENT Department
 - Education - Hearing Impaired Team (ToD)
 - Nurse Led Clinic (Currently Suspended)
 - Social Services

- **ENT Department**
 - We perform various diagnostic assessments for our ENT colleagues
 - We liaise with ENT to provide a seamless service for hearing aid users

- **Nurse Led Clinic (Currently Suspended)**
 - We can provide a referral for wax clearance for more complex cases i.e. mastoid cavities, perforations etc.

- **Education – Hearing Impaired Services (ToD)**
 - Liaise to ensure children cope within the home and school environments

- **Social Services**
 - Social Services can provide help and advice on adaptations in the home

Hearing Aids

- Latest state of the art digital hearing aids
- Adults & Paediatrics - Oticon, Phonak and Starkey hearing aids
- Hearing aids are individually programmed through a computer, to the person's hearing test
- Hearing tests are recommended every 3 years
- There are different ear fittings which can be fitted dependent on the patient's hearing needs; open fits or ear moulds
- Programmes can be added to enhance listening in different environments. These are activated by the Audiologist after discussing the patients individual requirements
- The Audiologist will have in depth discussions before and after the hearing aid fitting. Each person is treated with a holistic approach

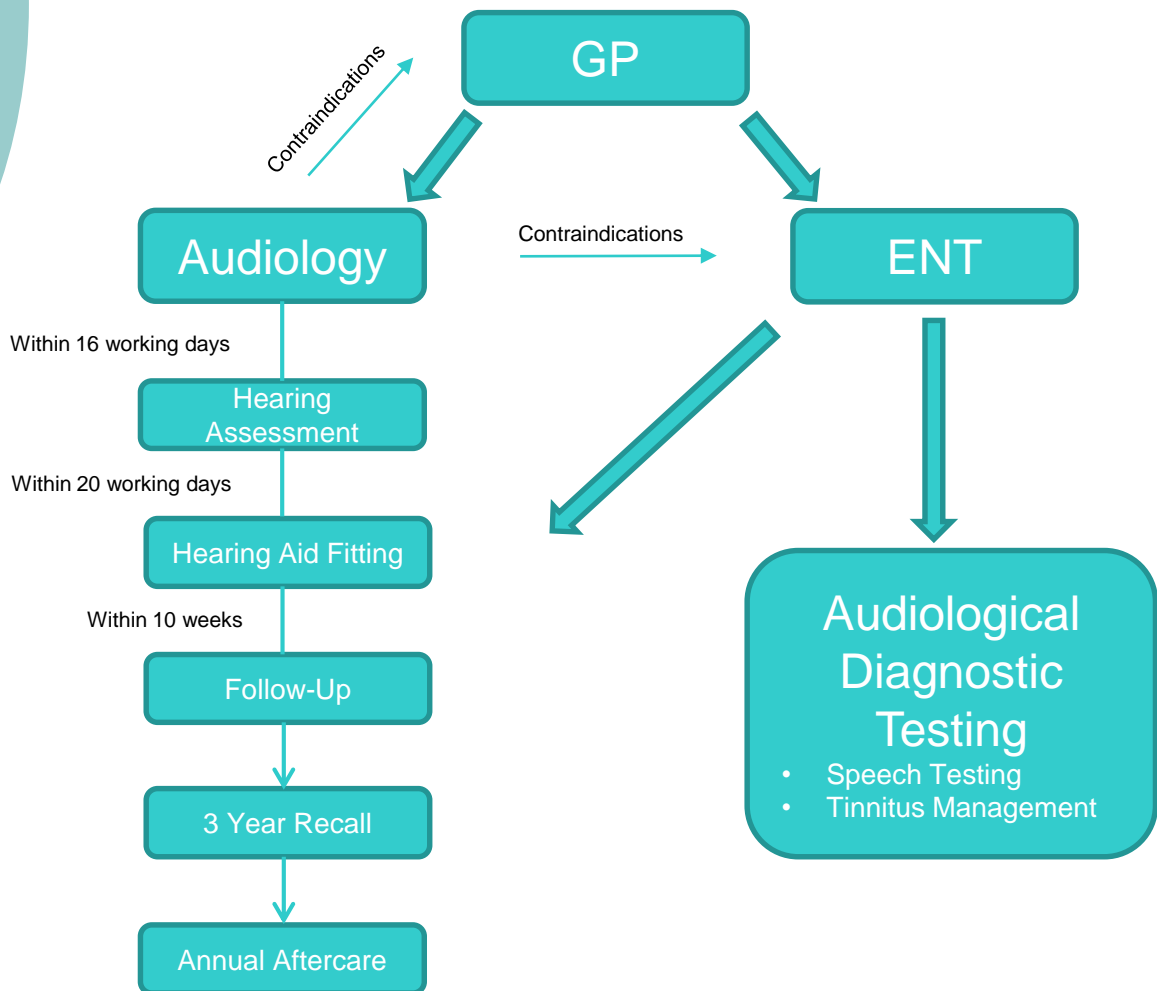


How To Refer

- **Adults (18+ Years of age)**
 - Check referral criteria (Appendix 2, Referral Criteria)
 - If patient does not fit the criteria refer direct to ENT
 - Refer via E- Referral
 - Please specify where the patient would like to be assessed
 - Tameside General Hospital
 - Glossop Primary Care Centre
 - Upon receiving the referral we will send for the patient **within 16 working days**
 - If any contra-indications are identified we will inform you, and also of any further action which is required
 - If hearing aids are required we will make arrangements to fit them **within 20 working days** of the initial assessment

Appendix 1

Patient Care Pathway (18+Yrs)



Appendix 2

Referral Criteria



British Academy of Audiology Guidelines for Referral to Audiology of Adults with Hearing Difficulty (aged 18+)

If these contra-indications are picked up by yourselves a referral to ENT is firstly required.
If they are later identified by Audiology we will refer the patient to ENT.

HISTORY	YES/NO
Sudden loss or sudden deterioration of hearing (Sudden = 72 hours)	Send to A & E
Altered sensation or numbness in the face or facial droop	
Persistent pain affecting either ear	
History of discharge (other than wax) from either ear within the last 90 days	
Rapid loss or rapid deterioration of hearing (rapid = 90 days or less)	
Fluctuating hearing loss other than associated with colds	
Hyperacusis	
Tinnitus which: Is unilateral Is pulsatile Has significantly changed in nature Is leading to sleep disturbance or is associated with symptoms of anxiety or depression	
Vertigo which has not fully resolved or which is recurrent	
A hallucination of movement Any dizziness or imbalance that may indicate otological, neurological or medical conditions Examples include headaches with associated dizziness, spinning, swaying or floating sensations and veering to the side when walking	
Normal peripheral hearing but with altered auditory perceptions	
EAR EXAMINATION	
Complete or partial obstruction of the external auditory canal preventing full examination of the eardrum and/or proper taking of an aural impression	
Abnormal appearance of the outer ear and/or the eardrum	
Any other unusual findings	

Appendix 3

Open-Access Clinic List



Open-Access clinic for **re-tubes** and **batteries** only

Clinic	Date (of each month)	
ASHTON - APCC, Old Street	Every 3 rd Mon	9.30am - 11.30am
DENTON - Ann Street	Every 2 nd & 4 th Wed	1.30pm - 3.30pm
DROYLSDEN - Albion Drive	Every 2 nd and 4 th Fri	1.30pm - 3.30pm
DUKINFIELD - Dewsnap Lane	Every 1 st & 3 rd Wed	9.30am - 11.30am
GLOSSOP - GPCC, George Street	Every Fri	2.00pm - 4.00pm
HATTERSLEY - Hattersley Road East	Every 2 nd Wed	9.30am - 11.30am
HYDE - Union Street	Every 1 st & 3 rd Tues	9.30am - 11.30am
MOSSLEY - Market Street	Every 4 th Fri	9.30am - 11.30am
STALYBRIDGE - Waterloo Road	Every 1 st Tues Every 4 th Mon	1.30pm - 3.30pm 9.30am - 11.30am

These drop-in sessions are currently suspended until further notice due to the COVID 19 Pandemic

We are currently able to offer the following services:

- Postal repair and battery service
- Booked drop-off repair service

Where necessary, face-to-face **booked** appointments at:

Tameside General Hospital,
Ann Street, Denton
Dewsnap Lane, Dukinfield
George Street, Glossop