



Australian Government

HLTAUD001 Assess hearing

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version was released in <i>HLT Health Training Package release 2.0</i> and meets the requirements of the 2012 Standards for Training Packages. Significant changes to the elements and performance criteria. New evidence requirements for assessment, including volume and frequency requirements. Significant change to knowledge evidence.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to prepare for, conduct and interpret the results of hearing assessments in adults. It includes the ability to establish a positive client relationship, develop realistic goals with the client and to recognise situations where referral to other health professionals is required.

This unit applies to any person who assesses hearing. This may include audiometrists, allied health assistants who support audiologists in health care organisations, nurses and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers. Work is conducted according to AS/NZ 1269.

The skills in this unit must be applied in accordance with Commonwealth and State/Territory legislation, Australian/New Zealand standards and industry codes of practice.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Elements define the essential outcomes

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

1. Prepare for hearing assessments

1.1 Ensure information, including required forms, is accessible and ready for use

1.2 Achieve required ambient noise levels in preparation of testing environment

1.3 Prepare, calibrate and check equipment and instruments

1.4 Ensure personal protective equipment is available and

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used

2. Establish a positive relationship with the client

2.1 Take client case history and explain practice/hearing service administrative procedures

2.2 Determine client's expectations through questioning and active listening

2.3 Gain consent from clients where applicable

2.4 Give client the opportunity to ask questions and discuss concerns

2.5 Identify and respond to special needs of client

2.6 Maintain confidentiality of client information

3. Conduct otoscopy

3.1 Follow personal hygiene and infection control procedures

3.2 Conduct otoscopy in a non-threatening manner and produce valid, reliable and accurate results in accordance with relevant policy and procedures

3.3 Identify and respond to any abnormalities of the ear canal

3.4 Identify contra-indications for proceeding with further hearing assessments

3.5 Make referral to appropriate agency for further assessment and treatment if required

4. Test hearing

4.1 Explain procedure to client using language the client understands

4.2 Identify significant features of client history

4.3 Select and conduct appropriate hearing tests following procedures for correct use of equipment

4.4 Produce valid, reliable and accurate results in accordance with relevant policy and procedures

4.5 Identify unreliable results and complete re-test

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Elements define the essential outcomes

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

according to standard protocols

4.6 Use results to identify specific hearing loss and/or any abnormal functions

4.7 Record results in accordance with relevant policy and procedures

4.8 Clean and store equipment in accordance with manufacturers' requirements and infection control procedures

5. Interpret results

5.1 Accurately interpret data from individual test results

5.2 Integrate and interpret interrelationships between test battery results to establish a comprehensive clinical picture

5.3 Validate results for consistency across the test battery

6. Review assessment results with client

6.1 Communicate results of assessments clearly and simply to the client

6.2 Determine and discuss options to support client

6.3 Negotiate and establish realistic goals for the client

6.4 Document and file results in accordance with relevant policies and procedures

6.5 Determine recommendations for further assessment or referral to an appropriate facility or hearing aid fitting

7. Complete report

7.1 Write report using language and format that suits target audience according to organisation standards

7.2 Include clear, concise and relevant information of tests performed

7.3 Include summary, recommendations and any further action required

7.4 Read and edit report for spelling and grammatical correctness

Foundation Skills

The Foundation Skills describe those required skills (language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills) that are essential to performance.

Foundation skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Unit Mapping Information

No equivalent unit.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705>

Assessment Requirements for HLTAUD001 Assess hearing

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Performance Evidence

The candidate must show evidence of the ability to complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the job role. There must be evidence that the candidate has:

- followed established procedures and protocols to independently conduct full hearing assessments for at least 20 different adult clients presenting with different hearing capacity, including males and females of diverse age, cultural and linguistic range, and seniors:
 - selected the hearing tests appropriate to client needs
 - accurately tested and recorded pure tone audiometry (AC/BC masking) speech audiometry (performance intensity (PI) function, speech reception threshold (SRT), masking) and impedance audiometry test results (tympanometry, ipsi and contralateral reflexes, reflex decay)
 - integrated and validated results across the test battery
 - determined type of hearing loss from test results
 - recognised and responded appropriately when a client is not giving true thresholds
- communicated effectively with clients using a client centred approach

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate essential knowledge required to effectively complete tasks outlined in elements and performance criteria of this unit, manage tasks and manage contingencies in the context of the work role. This includes knowledge of:

- legal and ethical considerations (national and state/territory) for conduct of hearing assessments:
 - contractual obligations

- duty of care
- informed consent
- privacy, confidentiality and disclosure
- records management
- work role boundaries – responsibilities and limitations:
 - boundaries of audiometrist role
 - generalist and specialist functions
 - relationship between audiometry and other health professionals
 - indicators for referral
- Australian and international standards that apply to the conduct of a hearing assessment:
 - maximum ambient noise levels for assessments
 - equipment calibrations
- standard infection control precautions
- anatomy of the ear, including:
 - peripheral and central auditory system
 - potential physical abnormalities
- hearing assessment battery elements:
 - taking case history
 - otoscopy
 - air
 - bone
 - speech discrimination (PI function)
 - SRT
 - masking (pure tone, speech)
 - tympanometry
 - ipsi/contralateral reflexes
 - reflex decay
- causes and types of hearing loss
- contraindications for hearing assessments
- physical environment requirements for audiometric assessments – booths versus quiet rooms
- equipment calibration both annual and biological
- characteristics of hearing tests, including:
 - types
 - purpose of different tests
 - materials that can be used
 - suitability of tests for different clients
 - reliability/validity of particular tests
 - transducers (headphones, insert earphones, bone conductor, free field)
 - stimuli (pure tone, warble, pulsed, narrow band noise, broad band noises, speech)

Assessment Conditions

Skills must have been demonstrated in the workplace or in a simulated environment that reflects workplace conditions. The following conditions must be met for this unit:

- use of suitable facilities, equipment and resources, including:
 - equipment that meets requirements of AS/NZ 1269
 - documentation that meets notation standards
- modelling of industry operating conditions, including:
 - integration of problem solving activities
 - time constraints for completion of testing
 - provision of services to general public

Assessors must satisfy the Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015/AQTF mandatory competency requirements for assessors.

Links

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<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=ced1390f-48d9-4ab0-bd50-b015e5485705>