

## HEARING AID LISTENING CHECK

### ***Why is a hearing aid listening check needed?***

A child learning language needs the hearing aids to consistently provide a clear sound that is loud enough to for him or her to hear speech. Hearing aids can malfunction for a variety of reasons, including normal daily wear and tear. The child cannot or may not tell you when there is a problem. Checking the hearing aids every day helps you to know if there is a problem, and reduces the amount of time the child is not hearing well.

### ***Who should do the listening check?***

Parents, speech-language pathologists, early interventionists, and teachers need to know that the child's hearing aids are working well every day.

### ***When should the listening check be done?***

A hearing aid listening check should be completed each morning, prior to therapy and class, and whenever a concern arises.

### ***What do I need to have on hand to check the hearing aids?***

Your audiologist can order a hearing aid care kit for you. Ask your audiologist about a filtered stethoscope so the amplified sound is not too loud for you. To check the hearing aids and troubleshoot problems you will need:

- A listening stethoscope, this attaches to the earmold or hearing aid tone hook so you can listen to the amplified sound
- A battery tester
- A wire loop and brush to remove wax from the earmold
- An air blower to remove moisture from the earmold tubing



## ***How do I check the hearing aids?***

### **STEP 1:**

Look at the hearing aids and earmolds and note any:

- Broken or cracked areas
- Blockage of openings
- Build-up of moisture in tubing
- Corrosion in battery compartment

### **STEP 2:**

Attach the earmold to the listening stethoscope and note any possible problems as you listen to each hearing aid. If there is a problem, try the suggested troubleshooting steps below, and listen to the hearing aid again. **Contact the audiologist if you are not able to fix the problem.**

Does the hearing aid amplify sound when it is turned on?	If not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Make sure the hearing aid is in the “on” position</li><li>• Change the battery</li><li>• Change the tone hook</li></ul>
Does the hearing aid sound as loud as you expect it to?	If not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Change the battery</li><li>• Listen to the hearing aid without the earmold (there may be blockage in the earmold tubing)</li><li>• Change the tone hook</li></ul>
Does the hearing aid amplify the sound consistently? (Does the sound cut in and out?)	If not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Change the battery</li><li>• Check the battery compartment for corrosion</li></ul>
Is the quality of the sound ok? (Is there a static sound or distortion?)	If not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Change the battery</li><li>• Check the battery compartment for corrosion</li><li>• Change the tone hook</li></ul>
Listen to the hearing aid as you say the Ling sounds (ah, ee, oo, mm, sh, s). Are the Ling sounds clear?	If not: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Change the battery</li><li>• Check the battery compartment for corrosion</li><li>• Change the tone hook</li></ul>

***If your child’s hearing aid needs to be repaired, request a loaner hearing aid.***