



# Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center

## Communication Disorders Department- Audiology

### Policy and Procedure

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**SUBJECT: AUDITORY EVOKED POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT (AEP)**

**Policy No.: 409**  
**Supersedes: September 1990**  
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**Page: 1 of 2**

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#### **PURPOSE**

To outline procedures for an AEP.

#### **POLICY**

An AEP is a procedure used to assess auditory function using electrophysiological testing methods. Auditory evoked potential procedures may be indicated for patients of all ages with signs, symptoms, or complaints, for whom central or peripheral auditory nervous system disease or disorder is suspected.

Auditory evoked potential assessments are indicated for objective evaluation of auditory sensitivity or function. Evaluations are conducted with patients who are difficult to test by conventional behavioral methods, to supplement behavioral information, or to resolve conflicting information.

1. Auditory evoked potential assessment describes the clinical status of the auditory neural pathway and associated sensory elements.
2. Neurophysiologic information assists in differential diagnosis and in estimating hearing threshold sensitivity.
3. Assessment may result in recommendations for treatment, follow-up, or referral for other services.

**Auditory Evoked Potential Assessment is conducted according to the Fundamental Components of Preferred Practice Patterns.**

#### **PROCEDURES**

1. A Diagnostic AEP will be performed after the patient has had a basic and/or comprehensive audiologic assessment. The AEP may include, but is not limited to at least two runs per intensity tested in which wave forms can be identified in each ear.
2. A Threshold AEP will be performed after a pediatric, basic, or comprehensive audiologic assessment has been attempted and/or completed. It shall include at least three intensity levels of two runs in which wave forms can be identified in each ear.

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Signature(s) on File.

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Page: 2 of 2

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3. Patients who require sedation will be referred to another appropriate facility for the procedure.
4. For documentation procedures of the AEP see Communication Disorders Department Policy-Documentation of Auditory Evoked Potential (AEP) Assessment.
5. Any audiologist who is in the clinical fellowship year must be supervised at all times when performing an AEP.

Source: Preferred Practice Patterns for the Professions of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, ASHA - Supplement No. 11, March 1993.

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (1992). Sedation and Topical Anesthetics in audiology and speech-language pathology. ASHA, 34 (March, Suppl. 7), 41-42.

ASHA.org Preferred Practice Patterns, Audiology

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