



Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center Communication Disorders Department -Audiology Policy and Procedure

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF HEARING IMPAIRMENT

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PURPOSE

To describe the methods of evaluation of hearing impairment.

POLICY

Philosophy of Evaluation

The Communication Disorders Department respects professional autonomy. The Communication Disorders Department philosophy provides guidelines for the areas of an audiological evaluation. The audiologist evaluates each patient according to patient needs and professional opinion.

The audiologist is to conduct an audiological evaluation on all patients assigned to the caseload. The choice of evaluation procedure(s) is based on the patient's age, medical case history, developmental, cognitive, and educational level, cultural influences, as well as primary spoken language. The audiological evaluation is performed by appointment and the report is to be completed within five working days of the outpatient visit or immediately following an inpatient visit.

The purpose of an audiological evaluation is to:

1. Evaluate a person's hearing status
2. Determine type(s), and severity of a hearing impairment
3. Determine the type and amount of treatment that will optimally and efficiently improve and/or aid the patient's hearing impairment.

PROCEDURES

The patient's hearing status may be evaluated in the following areas:

1. Peripheral auditory system
2. Auditory {VIII} nerve
3. Central auditory nervous system
4. Pseudohypoacusis
5. Middle ear function
6. Speech reception
7. Speech recognition
8. Amplification candidacy