

## 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 for him/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 so 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 form the earmold
- An air blower to remove moisture from the ear mold tubing



## How do I check the hearing aids?

### STEP 1:

Look at the hearing aids and the earmold and note any:

- Broken or cracked areas
- Blockage of openings
- Build-up of moisture in tubing
- Corrosion in the 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 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 tubing)</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 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 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>