

Audiology: WHAT CAN I EXPECT DURING MY VISIT?

Questions Often Asked By Our Families



Why am I seeing an audiologist?

Your pediatrician or another healthcare professional may have referred you to a pediatric audiologist to evaluate your child's hearing or auditory processing skills or ability (the brain's ability to understand what it hears).

What will happen during the hearing evaluation?

The audiologist will obtain information regarding your child's medical history and developmental milestones. The audiologist will look in your child's ears and use a small probe that will assess for fluid in the ear and middle ear function.

The type of hearing test performed is based on your child's developmental age. The audiologist is usually seated out of sight of the patient or in another room during the test.

- 6 months to 3 years: The child either is seated on the parents lap or is in a chair. Sounds are presented through speakers. Eye shift or head- turn responses to sound are rewarded by activation of a lighted mechanical toy near the speaker.
- 3- 5 years: Child wears headphones on their ears. Hearing is evaluated using play activities. Your child may be asked to place a block into a bucket when they hear a sound.
- School-aged children: Child wears headphones on their ears. They are asked to raise their hand each time they hear a sound and repeat words.

How long will the evaluation take?

Depending on your child's age, the evaluation may take up to 90 minutes.

What is my role during the evaluation?

The audiologist will ask you questions regarding your child's medical history, development and areas of concern. They will let you know if they need any help during the evaluation.

What if my child is not able to participate in a hearing test?

Computer based tests can be used with children who are not able to participate in traditional hearing tests.



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What if my child is referred for an Auditory Processing Skills or Ability evaluation?

The auditory processing skills or ability evaluation is administered over two separate sessions. Children must be at least 7 years of age (developmentally) and be able to count and repeat a series of words/sentences. In addition to the hearing test, the child will listen and respond to recorded material presented through headphones.

Will there be time to discuss the findings?

The audiologist will discuss the evaluation findings with you and their recommendations at the end of the evaluation.

When will I get a report?

You will have access to view the report on MyChart, the patient portal.

What do I need to bring?

Please bring:

- A current photo ID (license)
- Insurance card Referral if needed
- A current list of your child's medications prescriptions
- School reports (i.e. IEP, 504)
- Prior evaluations
- Equipment your child may use (glasses, hearing aid, etc.)
- Guardian papers (if joint, or sole custody)
- A list of questions to ask the audiologist

Can I bring my other children?

If possible, it is recommended that siblings stay home so that the parent can give their undivided attention during the evaluation. Understanding that child care is sometimes difficult, when bringing siblings, it may be helpful to bring another adult and activities to occupy the siblings during the evaluation.

Will insurance pay for the evaluation?

A representative from our insurance team will review your benefit coverage prior to your scheduled appointment. Please respond to communications (email, phone calls, text messaging) you may receive from the hospital as it may be our insurance department reaching out to discuss benefits.



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Children's
Specialized
Hospital



You are responsible for understanding your insurance benefit and are strongly encouraged to contact your insurance company directly for any exclusions, visit limits or out of pocket responsibility. If you have questions about insurance coverage, please contact our **Insurance Team** at **(908) 741-4399** for English or **(908) 741-4424** for Spanish.

How do I access the patient portal?

MyChart is the patient portal. You may already have access if you or your child has received care at any RWJBH facility. If not, it is recommended that you create an account prior to your visit. Please note, the parent or caregiver must create their own account first, during registration our representatives will explain how to access the portal on behalf of your child.

If you already have access to MyChart for your child, you will receive reminders starting three days prior to your appointment. Once you receive the reminder, we encourage you to complete the e-CheckIn. This will expedite registration once you arrive on site.

[Click Here](#) or Scan the code to access MyChart

