



VIHSP Audiology Referral

Please use this form to refer infants and children (0–5 years) for a hearing test.

Details of the infant or child being referred

First name Address

Surname Postcode

Date of birth Telephone

Male Female Gestation Mobile.....

Surname in hospital Email

Hospital of birth VIHSP screen result (*if known*) Pass Refer.....

Details of the person making this referral

Full name..... Postal address

Date referral made

Telephone..... Postcode

Reason for this referral (*please tick all that apply*)

***Immediate follow up by an audiologist is recommended for any risk factor with an asterisk.**

- Significant head injury*
- Congenital abnormality of the head/neck*
- Meningitis/encephalitis*
- A close relative (child’s parent or sibling) with a congenital hearing impairment
- Parental concern regarding the child’s hearing
- Neurodegenerative disorder
- Syndrome known to be related to hearing loss such as Down Syndrome – please specify.....
- Maternal infections during pregnancy eg toxoplasmosis, rubella, CMV
- Ventilation > 5 days
- Aminoglycoside antibiotics (eg. gentamicin) administered for 3 or more consecutive days
- Severe jaundice at exchange transfusion levels
- Other (e.g. developmental or speech delay) – please specify.....

The next steps in this referral process (*please tick one only*)

- Parent to call audiology centre and make appointment – complete centre details below
- Referral sent directly to audiology centre, audiology centre to contact parent with appointment
- Appointment made – details below

Details of audiology centre where the test will be done

Centre name Address

Telephone..... Postcode

Details of appointment (*if made*): date/time.....

Further information about referral for audiology assessment

Who can be referred using this form?

Any infant or child aged 0–5 years of age who needs a hearing test at an audiology centre due to parental concerns about the infant or child's hearing, or the presence of a risk factor as listed over the page.

Where can I find a list of audiology centres that can do assessments on infants?

A full list of audiology centres, including those that can see infants, is available from www.vihsp.org.au

What if the reason for referral is not listed on this form?

If the reason for referral is not listed, please specify the reason next to 'other'.

This child already passed a VIHSP screen, do they need to be referred?

VIHSP recommends that children who pass their screen and have one of the risk factors listed over the page have a hearing test at audiology by 8–12 months of age to check for any hearing losses that can develop over time. Immediate follow up by an audiologist is recommended for any risk factor with an asterisk (see overleaf). If the child has already been seen by an audiologist they do not need to be referred again.

What if a child missed their VIHSP screen?

If a child misses their VIHSP screen while in hospital, the VIHSP Area Manager will contact them to arrange an appointment.

A VIHSP hearing screen can be done up to six months of age, although younger is better. You can contact the relevant VIHSP Area Manager by contacting VIHSP on 9345 4941 or email.vihsp@rch.org.au, through the maternity ward of the hospital where the child was born, or by looking up their contact details on www.vihsp.org.au

What if a child passes a screen and was then readmitted to hospital?

A small number of children may need to have their hearing tested because of a medical concern or diagnosis that happens after they have passed their hearing screen. The hospital staff will determine if a referral to audiology is needed and will make the arrangements. If you have any queries about this please contact VIHSP on 9345 4941.

What does the audiology assessment involve?

An audiologist (a specialist in hearing) will perform a number of different hearing tests, depending on the age of the child. None of these are harmful or painful to the child. The aim is to get a complete picture of the child's hearing.

Who can I contact for more information?

There are a number of places to get further information. For further information about hearing screening and risk factors, go to www.vihsp.org.au or contact VIHSP on 9345 4941. For further information about the audiology appointment contact the audiology centre directly, as listed over the page.

Where should this form go?

This form can be either sent directly to the audiology centre as noted over the page or taken to the audiology centre by the parent.

Do I need to send a copy of this form anywhere else?

No. You may wish to take a copy for your own records but VIHSP no longer requires a copy of this form.

Where can I get more forms?

Download forms from www.education.vic.gov.au/mchservice or from www.vihsp.org.au or by contacting VIHSP on email.vihsp@rch.org.au

Victorian Infant Hearing Screening Program (VIHSP)

Head Office: Centre for Community Child Health
The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne
50 Flemington Road Parkville
Victoria 3052 Australia
Telephone +61 3 9345 4941
Facsimile +61 3 9345 5049
www.rch.org.au/vihsp