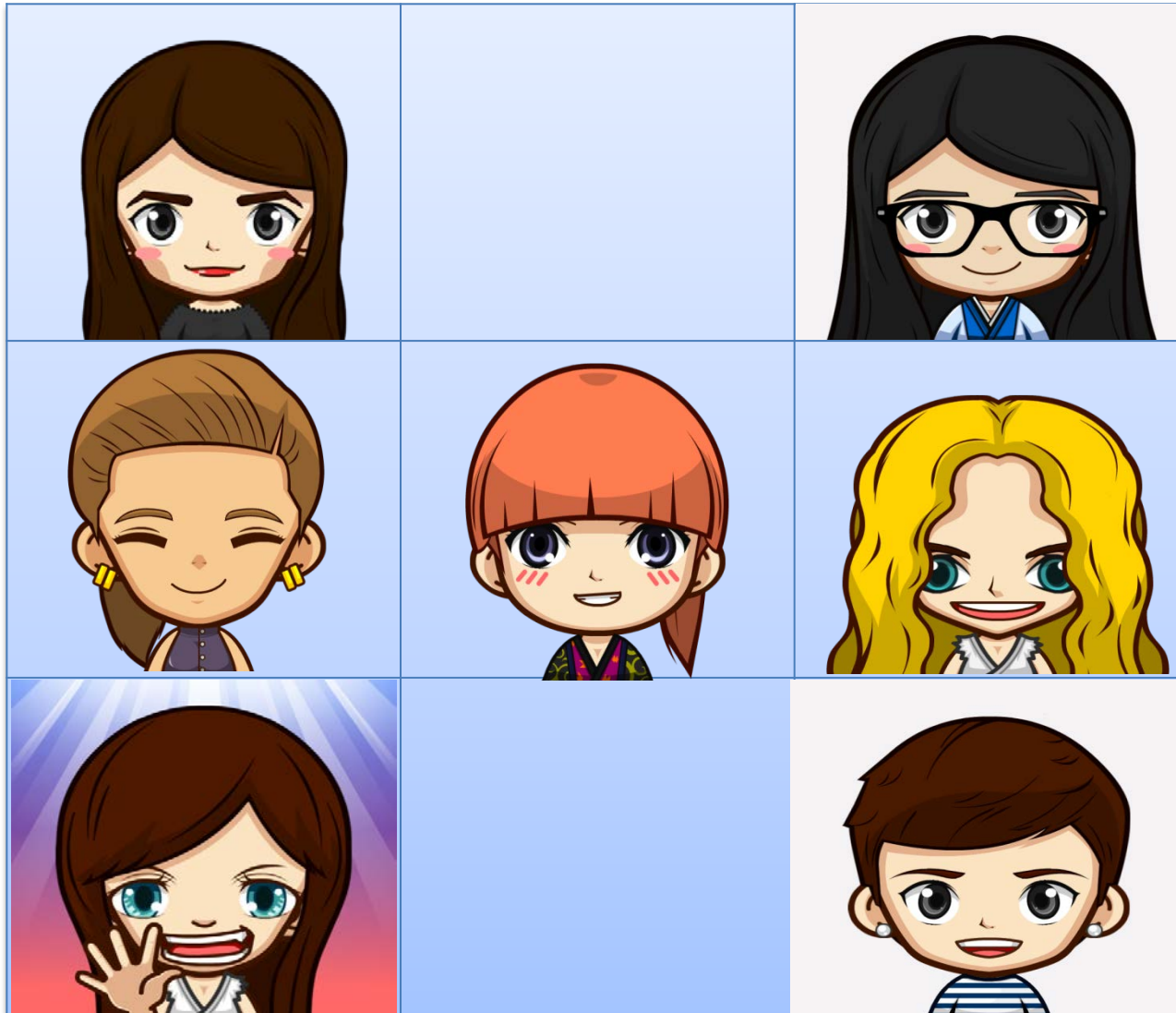


Who are we?

Audiology Service at the Royal
Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital



Department of Audiology, Speech and Balance Services



Eye and EAR Hospital

- Majority of patients will have some degree of hearing loss.
- Our responsibility is to provide best possible care.
- Be mindful of all patients and relatives who may have a hearing loss.



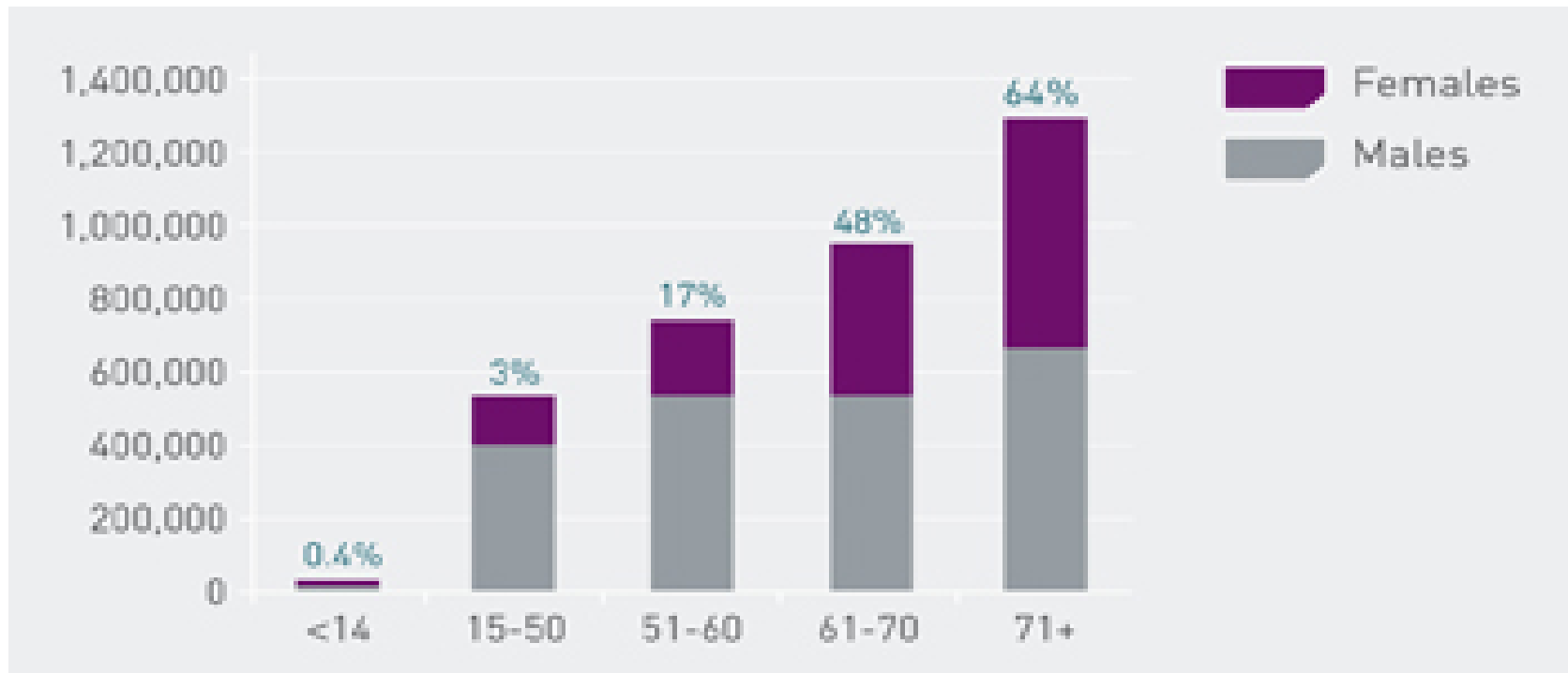


One in six people have a hearing health issue

1 in 6 Australians are affected by hearing loss.
There are approximately 30,000 Deaf Auslan
users with total hearing loss.

Prevalence of hearing loss

*'hearing loss is one of the most common disabilities in Australia'
... 1 in 6 Australians suffer from a hearing loss*

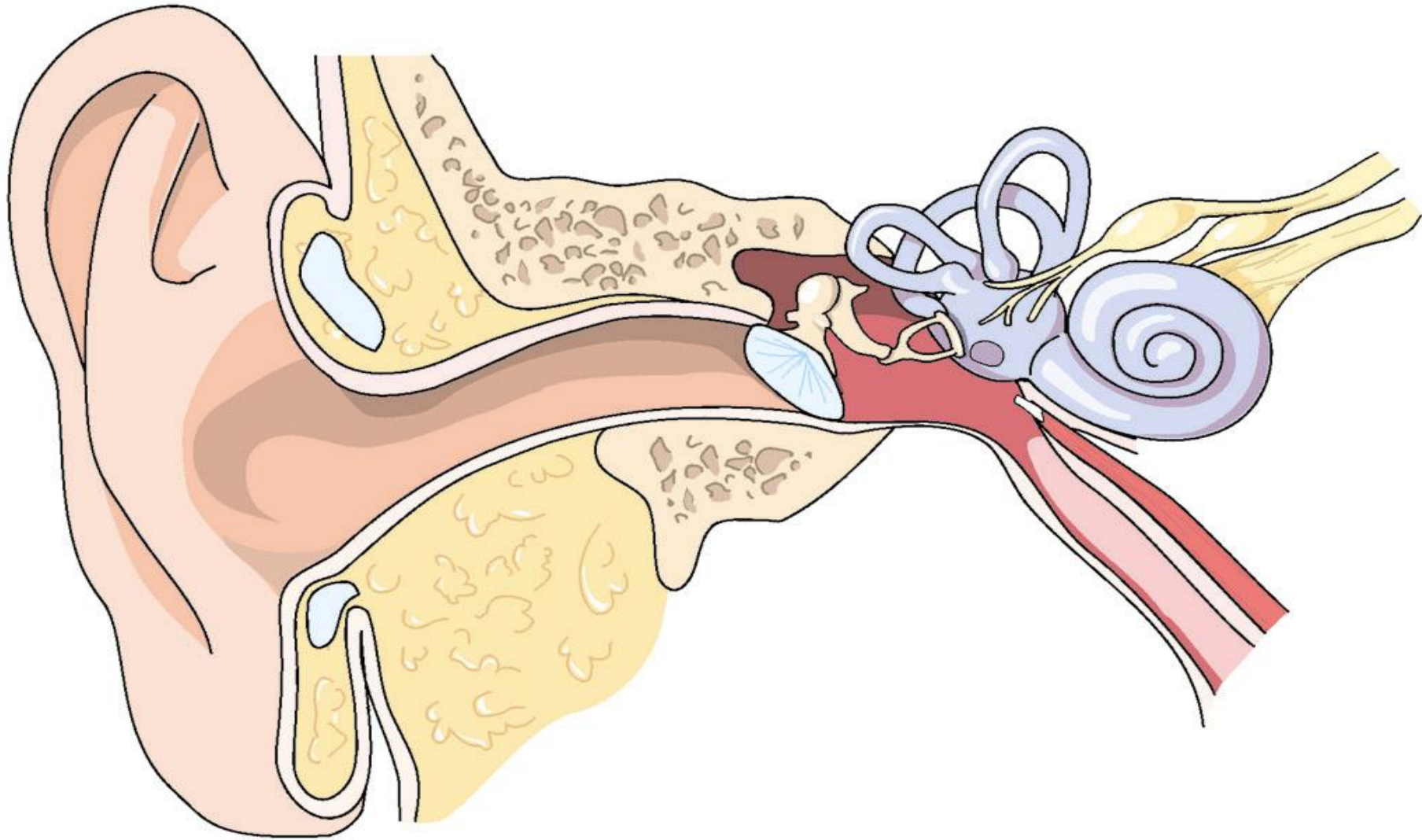


(source: Listen Hear! 2006 – The economic impact and cost of hearing loss in Australia)

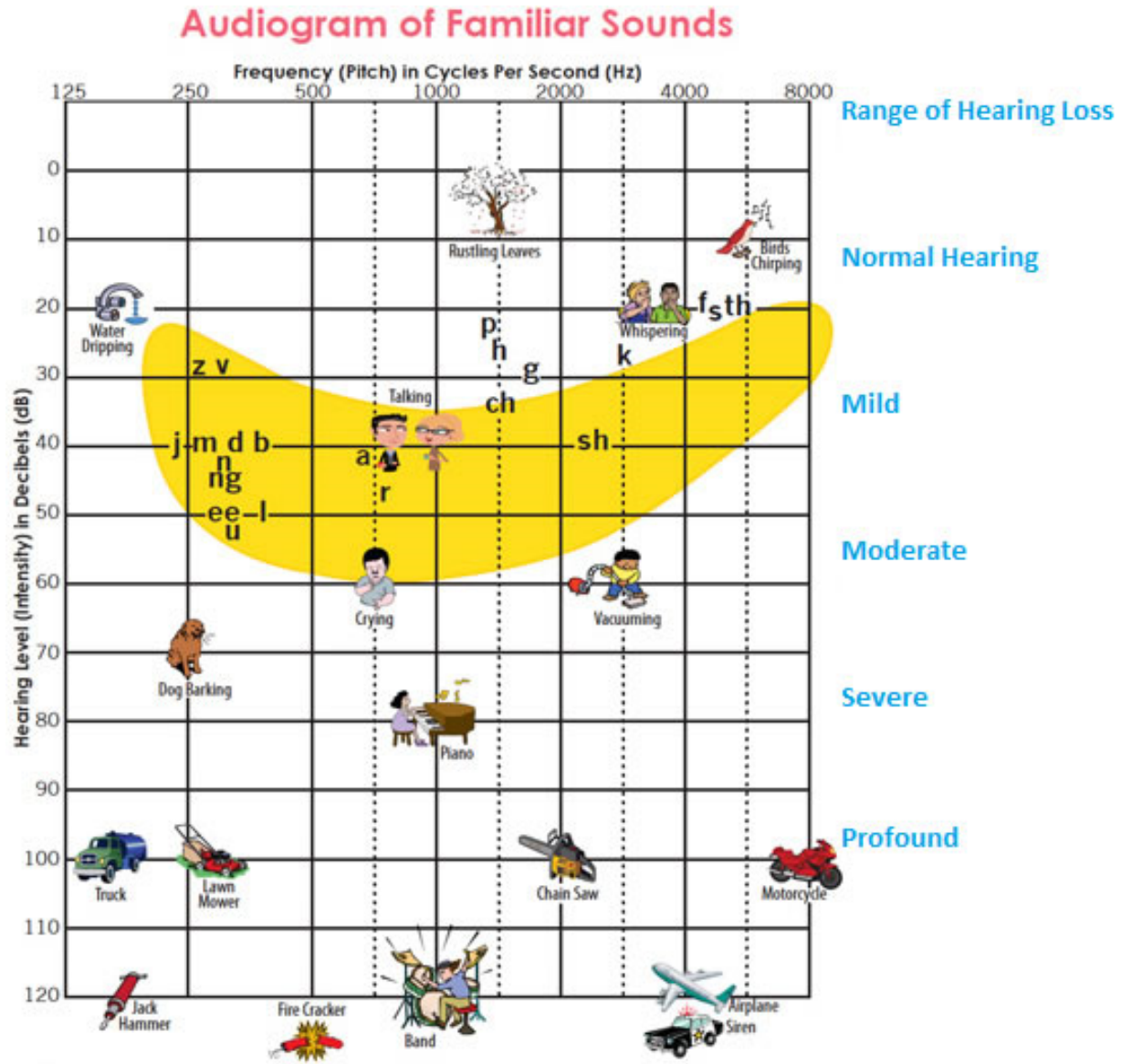
How do we define a hearing loss?

- Hearing loss can occur due to problems in several areas of the ear.





Degrees of Hearing Loss



Consequences of hearing loss

- Social isolation
- Loss of confidence
- Impacts on educational and employment opportunities
- Embarrassment
- Fatigue
- Frustration (not only for those with the hearing loss)
- Higher rates of depression (11% as compared to 5% in the general population)

Source: National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders



Where do we come in?



Audiology



Audiology Testing

- Determine the site, side and degree of the hearing deficit.
- Hearing thresholds across a range of frequencies important for hearing speech sounds.
- Speech recognition testing.
- Impedance testing.
- Automatic tests can also be performed.

What can you do?

How can you tell if someone has a hearing loss?



How can you tell if someone has a hearing loss?

Often an '**invisible**' problem.

There may not be a physical sign of hearing loss.

Behavioural signs can include:

- Answering the 'wrong question'
- Asking for repeats
- Confusion or embarrassment
- Avoiding difficult situations
- Not asking questions.

Other information to look for

PIMS alerts – hearing impairment, Auslan interpreter.

Auslan is an officially recognised language and is the official sign language of Australia with signing interpreters available to aid in communication.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKBAOHSCVvQ>





www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EJ4g3J6cJM



Communicating with someone with a hearing impairment

- Get the person's attention.
- Come closer to the person.
- Always speak face-to-face and ensure your face isn't covered and it is well lit (eg look up when taking the history).
- Speak clearly, a little slower and a little louder. Stress important words.
- Usual facial expression and gesture.

- 
- Avoid or reduce background noise (eg move to a quieter place).
 - Mention the topic of conversation beforehand, and draw attention to any change of topic during a conversation.
 - Check their understanding regularly.
 - If the person does not seem to understand what you have said, try to express the message in a different way instead of repeating it exactly.

- 
- Ask them if they'd like you to write it down.
 - Provide written information to take home.
 - Dictation apps.

Hearing devices

- Hearing aids
- Personal amplifiers
- Television amplifiers
- Telephone accessories (TTY)
- Personal alarms



Office of Hearing Services



Australian Government
Department of Health

Search the website



Hearing Services Program

[For Everyone](#)

[For Professionals](#)

[About the Program](#)

Text size:

A

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[How can the program help me?](#) ▾ [Client Information](#) ▾ [NDIS](#) [About Hearing](#) [More...](#) ▾

Do you want to...

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[Check your eligibility](#)

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[Find your last provider](#)

Information on how to make an informed decision about your hearing health.



[Learn more](#)



Contacts

☎ 1800 500 726
✉ hearing@health.gov.au
📡 [RSS Feed](#)

Popular Pages

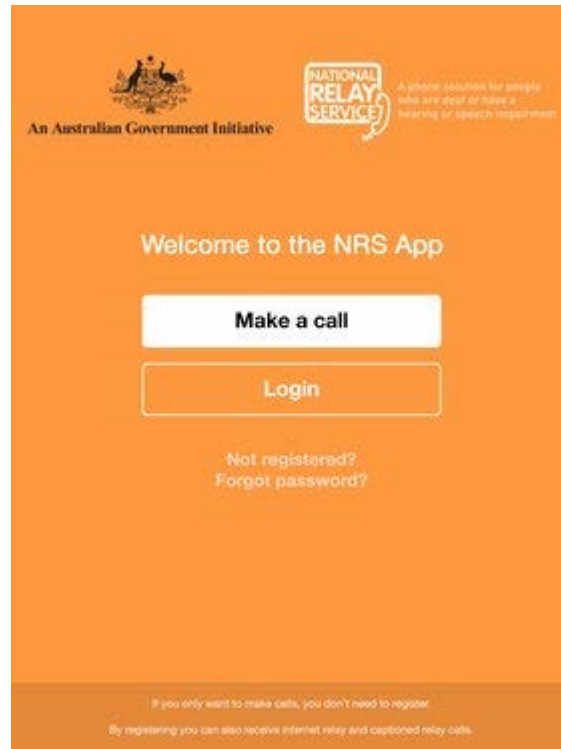
- [Am I eligible?](#)
- [Hearing device information](#)
- [About Hearing Loss](#)
- [National Disability Insurance Scheme](#)

Useful Links

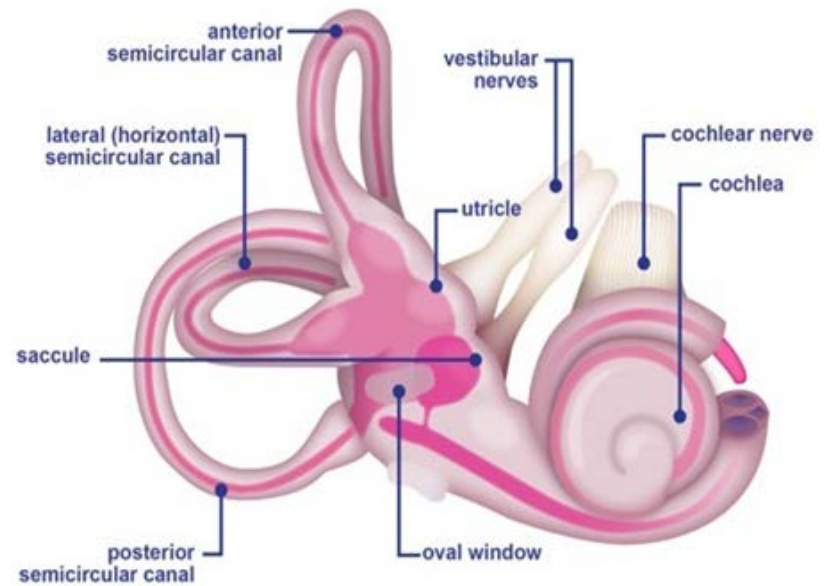
- [Services available to clients](#)
- [Veteran Specific Information](#)
- [Maintenance Agreements](#)
- [Assistance if you are not eligible](#)

Communicating with patients outside the hospital:

- Fax
- Email
- SMS
- TTY
- NRS

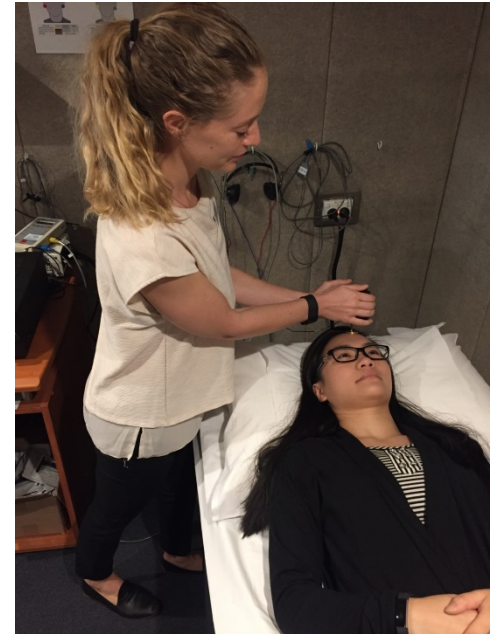


Vestibular Testing



Testing battery

- **cVEMP:** This test involves monitoring muscle activity in the neck while the head is raised off the pillow and clicking noises are played through headphones.
- **oVEMP:** The activity of the eye muscles is monitored while the eyes are directed upwards and a tapper is placed on the forehead.



- **Videonystagmography (VNG):** oculomotor recordings.
- **Rotational chair:** A special chair is rotated back and forth while a camera records eye movements. The chair does not make any sudden movements and the speed is no faster than an office chair being turned.

- **Calorics:** Air is inserted into the inner ear and the resulting eye movements are recorded.



- **Video Head Impulse Test (vHIT):** Quick but small head movements are performed from side to side and eye movements are recorded.



Epley Omniax

Recorded for children's science show Scope in 2017.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXR9mByTInc&feature=youtu.be>



Scope TV: Vertigo Machine