



Hearing Loss Clinic

What is Hearing Loss Clinic?

Hearing Loss Clinic is for children with issues related to hearing loss. Experts from a number of areas work together to assist children and their families.

What are the goals of Hearing Loss Clinic?

- Identify the cause of hearing loss, if possible.
- Provide support, education and guidance to access technology that may help.
- Provide information about early intervention and school services.
- Assess the emotional and behavioral needs of patients and families.
- Address concerns about growth and development and hearing loss.

Many families find Hearing Loss Clinic helpful after a new diagnosis of hearing loss. Families may also find it helpful during major transition periods for the child and/or family.

Who are the providers?

Audiologist — measures your child's hearing levels. This may be done with or without hearing aids. Hearing aids and FM systems may be discussed.

Mental Health Counselor — can assess the social and emotional well-being of the child. A referral will be made, if needed.

Educator — helps families address questions or concerns about school services in the context of hearing loss.

Genetic Counselor — collects family history information and obtains medical and hearing history of the child. Genetic testing may be recommended.

Developmental Pediatrician — consults when there are concerns, in addition to hearing loss, about the child's development.

Otolaryngologist (Ear, Nose and Throat doctor) — reviews patient history and examines your child. Test results and X-rays will be reviewed. They also order tests to help identify the cause of hearing loss. A nurse practitioner may see your child to start the evaluation.

To Learn More

- Childhood Communication Center
206-987-3853 (Voice)
206-987-2788 (TTY)
- Ask your child's healthcare provider
- www.seattlechildrens.org

Free Interpreter Services

- In the hospital, ask your child's nurse.
- From outside the hospital, call the toll-free Family Interpreting Line 1-866-583-1527. Tell the interpreter the name or extension you need.
- For Deaf and hard of hearing callers
206-987-2280 (TTY)

What can you expect during your visit?

The length of your visit will vary based on your family's needs and the number of providers you will see. Sometimes there are long waits between providers. **Most visits last 3 to 4 hours. Please bring books, toys and snacks with you.**

Information to bring to your visit: (Tests that were not done at Children's)

- Audiograms (hearing tests)
- CT/MRI scans (X-rays of the ear)
- IFSP or IEP
- Speech/Language reports
- Educational test reports
- List of questions you have

Seattle Children's offers interpreter services for Deaf, hard of hearing or non-English speaking patients, family members and legal representatives free of charge. Seattle Children's will make this information available in alternate formats upon request. Call the Family Resource Center at 206-987-2201.

This handout has been reviewed by clinical staff at Seattle Children's. However, your child's needs are unique. Before you act or rely upon this information, please talk with your child's healthcare provider.

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