

Using a Listening Stethoset to Check Hearing Aid Function

Purpose: to ensure the hearing aid is working properly.

If the hearing aid is weak, distorted, intermittent or dead, and the client is wearing the aid, they will receive little to no benefit from the aid and show limited understanding of what is being communicated to them.

Equipment required:

Listening Stethoset, hearing aid batteries, hearing aid battery tester

Process:

1. Ensure the hearing aid is charged or that the batteries are working by turning the hearing aid on and cupping it into the palm of your hand. When the hearing aid is turned on and coupled in a slightly closed palm, you should hear whistling from the hearing aid, as a feedback loop has been created. This means the batteries are working. If no whistle is heard, please check the batteries.
2. If the batteries are working, attach the hearing aid to the stethoset by putting the opening of the ear canal tip of the hearing aid or earmold into the end of the stethoset's tube. Then insert the ear tips in your ears.
3. Bring the aid to the level of your chin and speak naturally into the microphone of the hearing aid. If there is a volume control on the hearing aid, adjust it up and down to ensure your voice becomes louder or softer depending on what direction you are adjusting it. Your voice should sound clear, with no crackling or cutting in and out.
4. To make sure that the hearing aid is working for a wide range of sounds, use the Low-Mid-High (LMH) speech sounds below. Say each sound into the hearing device at a normal, conversational volume while holding the hearing aid about 10 inches away from your mouth. Listen for a clear sound signal through the listening stethoset with no crackling or cutting in and out.



/ah/ as in hot

/oo/ as in boot

/ee/ as in feet

/sh/ as in shoe

/s/ as in sun

/m/ as in me

/n/ as in never

/h/ as in hand

/z/ as in zoo

/j/ as in jump

If the amplified sounds are clear, it's time for the client to wear the hearing aid and experience improved hearing. If you find the hearing aid not to be working properly, please refer to the [Hearing Aid Care and Trouble Shooting Tip Sheet \(albertahealthservices.ca\)](https://albertahealthservices.ca/hearingaidcareandtroubleshootingtipsheet) to ensure the client's hearing aid is functioning optimally.

See [AHS.ca Communication Access](https://albertahealthservices.ca/communicationaccess) for more Communication Access information. For further learning and support, contact your local audiologist or practice.consultation@ahs.ca



COMMUNICATION ACCESS

