# When To Refer To An Audiologist



# When your patient presents with any of the following comorbidities:

☐ Sudden or rapidly progressive hearing loss	☐ Acute or chronic dizziness	☐ Diabetes Types 1 & 2	
☐ Unilateral hearing loss of sudden onset within the past 90 days	☐ Vertigo	☐ Obesity	
	☐ Tinnitus	☐ High blood pressure	
☐ Otorrhea in past 90 days	☐ Noise exposure	☐ Cardiovascular disease	
☐ Otalgia in past 90 days	$\square$ History of ear surgery	☐ Hypothyroidism	
	☐ History of ear infections	☐ Autoimmune disease	
☐ Visible congenital or traumatic deformity of the ear	☐ Vision loss	☐ History of head injury	
☐ Previously diagnosed	☐ Renal dysfunction	☐ History of stroke	
and untreated hearing	☐ Chronic kidney disease	□ Dementia	
☐ Family history of hearing loss	☐ Fibromyalgia	☐ Cognitive decline	
	☐ Rheumatoid arthritis		
$\square$ Congenital hearing loss	☐ Anemia	☐ Depression	
☐ Cerumen impaction	☐ Grave's disease	☐ Current smoker	



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## When your patient is taking any of the following medications:

☐ Ototoxic
medications

☐ Vestibulotoxic medications

☐ Loop inhibiting diuretics

☐ Aminoglycoside antibiotics

☐ Cisplatin/Carboplatin

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#### When your patient reports:

☐ Hearing difficulties

□ Balance issues

☐ Tinnitus



### When your patient fails a hearing screening - recommended screening measurments:

☐ Subjective: HHIE-S

What is it?

A self-adminidstered 10 question screener assessing your patient's social and emotional impact of their hearing

<u>Time required to complete?</u>

2 minutes

When to refer?

Refer patients who score 8 or higher

Continue to next page for printable HHIE-S

☐ Objective: Pure Tone Hearing Screening

What is it?

Hearing screening assessing patient's ability to hear tones in both ears at 40dB at frequencies of 500, 1000, 2000 and 4000 Hz

Time required to complete?

Approximately 90 seconds

When to refer?

Refer patients who fail to hear 2 frequencies in at least one ear





#### HHIE-S

**Instructions:** The purpose of this scale is to identify the problems your hearing loss may be causing you. Please select *Yes, Sometimes,* or *No* for each question. Do not skip a question if you avoid a situation because of your hearing problem. If you use a hearing aid, please answer the way you hear with the hearing aid.

the realing ara.	No	Sometimes	Yes
Does a hearing problem cause you to feel embarrassed when you meet new people?	0	2	4
2. Does a hearing problem cause you to feel frustrated when talking to members of your family?	0	2	4
3. Do you have difficulty hearing when someone speaks in a whisper?	0	2	4
4. Do you feel handicapped by a hearing problem?	0	2	4
5. Does a hearing problem cause you difficulty when visiting friends, relatives, or neighbors?	0	2	4
6. Does a hearing problem cause you to attend religious services less often than you would like?	0	2	4
7. Does a hearing problem cause you to have arguments with family members?	0	2	4
8. Does a hearing problem cause you to have difficulty when listening to television or radio?	0	2	4
9. Do you feel that any difficulty with your hearing limits/hampers your personal or social life?	0	2	4
10. Does a hearing problem cause you difficulty in a restaurant with relatives or friends?	0	2	4
Grand Total		Column Totals	
(add column totals)			

### Get in touch!

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