

How is your employee's hearing?

Did you know, if your employees are using personal hearing protection, you need to have audiometric testing conducted, within three months of commencing work.

Hearing loss is a common concern identified by Workplace Health and Safety. Our team recommends you establish your new employee's baseline hearing before they commence work.

Hearing damage is possible when a person is exposed to **over 85 decibels of noise.** Here's some common sounds beyond that range:





Lawn mower **94 dB**



Diesel truck 114 dB

Audio testing at Castle Hill Medical Centre

A simple audio test determines whether your employee has an existing hearing impairment. This is good to establish prior to employment to help prevent any future claim against your company for hearing loss. We test to Australian Standards AS/NZS 1269.4:2005 in a fully sound-proof booth. An easy to understand and colour coded print out is provided.

With regular follow up testing, we can track changes in hearing levels by comparison and monitor your employees' hearing to identify if the personal hearing protection and noise reduction strategies are working.

Your obligations around audio testing

The Safe Work Australia, Managing Noise and Preventing Hearing Loss at Work guide (WHS Regulation 58), states:

A person conducting a business or undertaking must provide audiometric testing for a worker who is carrying out work for the business or undertaking if the worker is required to frequently use personal hearing protectors as a control measure for noise that exceeds the exposure standard.

It also states that audiometric testing must be provided:

- within three months of commencing work
- prior to exposure to hazardous noise
- to establish a baseline reference for future testing
- as follow-up tests to be carried out every two years.

More frequent testing may be needed if exposures are at a high LAeq, 8h, which is equal to or greater than 100 dB (A).¹

You can find more information in the Managing Noise and Preventing Hearing Loss at Work guide at Safework Australia.



To book an audio test for your employee, please call our Workplace Health Services team on (02) 8865 0633 or email us at workplacehealth@chmc.com.au

¹SafeworkAustralia Managing Noise and Preventing hearing loss at Work p26



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Explore how our professional medical services can support your workforce today. Contact our Workplace Health Services team on (02)8865 0633 or workplacehealth@chmc.com.au



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