

# Audiometry Assessments - Compared

Criteria	Screening Audiometry	Occupational Noise Management Audiometry	WorkCover WA (Legislative Baseline Audiometry)
<b>When?</b>	A standard screening service that is part of a standard pre-employment medical to assess if a person can hear adequately for normal conversation in a normal job.	Workplaces in all states where workers are exposed to noise over 85 decibels (dBA) over an 8 hour period are required to have an Occupational Noise Management program in their workplace under WHS laws.	WA Companies with a WorkCover Number (WCN) only and who are regarded as 'noisy' workplaces. Because the workplace is noisy, all workers whether directly exposed or not must have a Legislative Baseline Audiometry test. There may be requirements under WHS legislation for employers to also do Occupational Noise Management Audiometry.
<b>Initial Audiometry test (at start of employment)</b>	There is no testing frequency stipulated. Where possible, avoid noise >85dBA for 16 hours prior to test.	Reference Occupational Noise Management Audiometry must be done for the above workers prior to starting their employment. Requires 16hrs of quiet time prior (no exposure to noise above normal conversation i.e. 85dBA)	Legislative Baseline Audiometry. Requires 16hrs of quiet time prior (no exposure to noise above normal conversation i.e. 85dBA)
<b>Ongoing Audiometric test</b>	Not required, unless workplace environment changes to become noisy. Then assess noise levels for potential Occupational Noise Management Program.	Monitoring Occupational Noise Audiometry is required (16hrs of quiet time not mandatory)	Subsequent Audiometry test if requested by worker, repeat test 12 months after initial test.
<b>Frequency of ongoing testing</b>	Not specified nor required.	Monitoring Occupational Noise Audiometry is done every two years at a minimum. Can be less if noise levels significant.	No frequency stated.
<b>Who may request the test</b>	Employer only.	Employer only.	Employer at Baseline, then any time after 12 months either worker or employer may request.
<b>Paperwork</b>	Pre-Employment Medical paperwork, Excel Audio calculator, or printout of Workplace Audiometrics software result form.	Occ Noise Management Audiometry	Workcover WA-LBA Form 411 Audiogram Results

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<b>Test process</b>	Air conduction, left and right ear 500Hz through to 8000Hz.	Air conduction, left and right ear 500Hz through to 8000Hz. Headset rest and 3K, 4K, and 6K tests are repeated. Additional paperwork and extra reviews by doctors.	Air conduction, left and right ear 500Hz through to 8000Hz as per WorkCover Testing Manual.
<b>Are ears checked prior to testing? (otoscopy)</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>How are results assessed?</b>	Results assessed against known clinical criteria for normal hearing or company guidelines if provided. The doctor will take into account the candidate's job role and determine any hearing loss, however, it is not a legally defensible result or able to be used again to monitor hearing loss down the line.	The operator must work out the mean and average of the overall testing. Once the operator has finished the paperwork, the results are sent to an internal health surveillance department for review by a doctor specialising in Occupational Noise Management. From there, the results are released to the company with recommendations regarding their next hearing test and any appropriate PPE.	WorkCover WA Audiometric Officer assesses against Waugh Macrea. Dependent on results audiometric officer either uploads to WorkCover WA online portal or makes recommendations for referral for further testing.
<b>Tester</b>	Tester must complete RTO - HLTAUD001 - Training assess hearing course.	Tester must complete HLTAUD001 and HLTAUD003 - Assess and respond to occupational noise risk training course to perform Occupational Noise Management tests.	Tester must be a trained WorkCover WA Audiometric officer.
<b>Equipment</b>	Audiometer within calibration date with appropriate headset and meeting AS/NZS1269.4:2014	Audiometer within calibration date with appropriate headset and meeting AS/NZS1269.4:2014	Audiometer within calibration date with appropriate headset and meeting AS/NZS1269.4:2014. Certificates uploaded to WorkCover WA.
<b>Test Environment (Test room can include booth)</b>	Sonic clinics: Ambient noise levels assessed and certified every 3 years. Client premises: only in special, pre-assessed and agreed to circumstances.	Ambient noise levels assessed and certified every 3 years.	Ambient noise levels assessed and certified every 3 years.