

<b>Title</b>	<b>Describe hearing impairment and support services that are specific to people with a hearing impairment</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>People credited with this unit standard are able to, in a health or wellbeing setting, describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the basic structure and function of the ear;</li> <li>• the major effects of hearing impairment on communication;</li> <li>• the effects of hearing impairment on a person; and</li> <li>• regional agencies or support services and roles of professionals that are specific to people with a hearing impairment.</li> </ul>
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<b>Classification</b>	Health, Disability, and Aged Support > Sensory Support
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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## Guidance Information

### Definitions

*Deafness* or the term 'deaf' generally refers to those who are unable to hear well enough to rely on their hearing and to use it as a means of processing information.

*Hearing impairment* or the term 'hearing impaired' refers to people who have some hearing and are able to use it for communication purposes. A hearing impairment leaves the person able to interact socially using speech and hearing, and they live life predominantly as a member of the hearing world. Hearing impairment may also include those with temporary conductive hearing loss.

*Health or wellbeing setting* includes but is not limited to: the aged care, acute care, community support, disability, mental health, rehabilitation, social services and youth development sectors.

*Person* is the individual accessing services. Other terms used for the person may include client, consumer, customer, patient, individual, resident, or service user.

## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Describe the basic structure and function of the ear.

### Performance criteria

1.1 The ear is described in terms of its sections.

Range sections include – outer, middle and inner ear.

1.2 The structures of the ear are described in terms of their function.

Range structures include – pinna, ear-canal, ear drum, ossicles, eustachian tube, cochlea, auditory nerve, semi-circular canals.

### Outcome 2

Describe the major effects of hearing impairment on communication.

#### Performance criteria

2.1 Types of hearing impairment are described in terms of the major effects on communication.

Range types of hearing impairment include but are not limited to – conductive, sensori-neural, mixed.

2.2 Degrees of hearing impairment are described in terms of the major effects on communication.

Range degrees of hearing impairment include – mild, moderate, severe, profound.

2.3 Age of onset of hearing impairment is described in terms of the major effects on communication.

Range age of onset must include but is not limited to – pre-lingual infant, post-lingual child, adolescent and older adult.

### Outcome 3

Describe the effects of hearing impairment on a person.

#### Performance criteria

3.1 The difference between deafness and hearing impairment is described in terms of the impact on a person.

3.2 Effects of hearing impairment are described in terms of their potential impact on a person's lifestyle.

Range effects include but are not limited to – psychological, social, educational, recreational, vocational.

3.3 Common misconceptions about hearing impairment are described in terms of their impact on a person.

Range three common misconceptions.

**Outcome 4**

Describe regional agencies or support services and roles of professionals that are specific to people with a hearing impairment.

**Performance criteria**

4.1 Regional agencies or support services are described in terms of the services offered and the type of people with hearing impairments they are able to assist.

Range three regional agencies or support services.

4.2 The roles of professionals who are part of hearing referral pathways are described in terms of their areas of specialisation.

Range roles must include but are not limited to – audiologist, hearing therapist, advisors for deaf children.

<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2026
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	20 March 2009	31 December 2017
Review	2	16 April 2015	31 December 2023
Rollover and Revision	3	24 October 2019	31 December 2023
Review	4	26 August 2021	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0024
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact Careerforce [info@careerforce.org.nz](mailto:info@careerforce.org.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.