

Title	Explain methods of hearing protection and the components of a workplace hearing conservation programme		
Level	5	Credits	4

Purpose	People credited with this standard are able to explain: effects of excessive exposure to noise on hearing and wellbeing, methods of hearing protection, and the components of a workplace hearing conservation programme.
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Classification	Health, Disability, and Aged Support > Hearing Therapy
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Definition
Communication includes – face-to-face, group, communication in background noise, use of communication technology.

- 2 Resources
Noise exposure, measurement and management fact sheets, safety level definitions and hearing protection guides and codes of practice are provided by WorkSafe New Zealand and available at: [Publications | WorkSafe](#)

Department of Labour. (1996). *Occupational safety and health service – Management of noise in the workplace*. Available at: [Further information | WorkSafe](#)

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Explain the effects of excessive exposure to noise on hearing and wellbeing.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Noise exposure safety levels are explained in accordance with WorkSafe New Zealand's publications.

Range decibels, frequencies, duration of exposure.
- 1.2 The effect of excessive exposure to noise is explained in terms of its impact on hearing levels.

Range temporary threshold shift, permanent threshold shift.

- 1.3 The effect of excessive noise exposure is explained in terms of its impact on a person that results from the reduced ability to hear.

Range communication, functionality, daily activities, participation, wellbeing.

Outcome 2

Explain methods of hearing protection.

Range ear plugs, earmuffs, signage, noise avoidance, limitation of exposure, management of noise in the environment.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Requirements for hearing protection methods are explained in accordance with WorkSafe New Zealand's publications.

Outcome 3

Explain the components of a workplace hearing conservation programme.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Noise measurement is explained in accordance with WorkSafe New Zealand's publications.

- 3.2 Noise control methods are explained in accordance with WorkSafe New Zealand's publications.

Range may include – review of work processes, isolation of machinery, maintenance of machinery, reduction of reverberation, use and maintenance of hearing protectors; explanation of three noise control methods is required.

- 3.3 Requirements for hearing screening are explained in accordance with WorkSafe New Zealand's publications.

Range baseline audiogram, auditory rest, temporary threshold shift, ambient noise level, frequency of testing, standard of equipment.

- 3.4 The criteria for notification of Noise-Induced Hearing Loss as an occupational disease are explained in accordance with WorkSafe New Zealand's publications.

- 3.5 Requirements for employer and employee education are explained in accordance with WorkSafe New Zealand's publications.

Range risk awareness, legal obligations, hearing protection, noise control methods.

Planned review date	31 December 2029
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	20 April 2017	31 December 2025
Review	2	26 September 2024	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	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 Toitū te Waiora Community, Health, Education and Social Services Workforce Development Council info@toitutewaioara.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.