

Title	Assess the communication capability of a person who is impacted by hearing loss and the psychosocial impact of the loss.		
Level	6	Credits	14

Purpose	People credited with this standard are able to, for a person who is impacted by hearing loss: use assessment tools to determine the communication capability of a person and identify their psychosocial needs; identify hearing assistive technologies, professional supports, and social, recreational, and vocational support services available to a person in relation to their communication abilities and needs, and their psychosocial needs.
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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

- The performance of all outcomes of this unit standard must comply with any relevant cultural and legislative requirements including Te Tiriti o Waitangi ([Te Tiriti o Waitangi | The Treaty of Waitangi | Te Papa](#)), and the rights and responsibilities of people receiving services or supports as outlined in the Health and Disability Commissioner (Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights) Regulations 1996. ([Health and Disability Commissioner \(Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights\) Regulations 1996 \(SR 1996/78\)](#)).
- References
 Alpiner, Jerome G; and McCarthy, Patricia A, *Rehabilitative Audiology: Children and Adults* 3rd ed. (Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins, 1999), is the primary reference for the following tests – Quantified Denver Scale of Communication; California Consonant Test; Speech Perception in Noise Test (SPIN); Sanders Needs Communication Profile.
 Erber, Norman P, *Communication Therapy for Hearing-Impaired Adults* (Victoria, Australia: Clavis, 1988), is the primary reference for the following tests – Topicon; Sent-Ident; Erber's Quest-AR.
 Erdman, SA; Crowley, JM; and Gillispie, GG, *Considerations in counselling the hearing impaired. Hearing Instruments*, 35 (11) 1984, is the primary reference for the following test – Behavioural Inventory for Rehabilitation Therapy (BIRT). This is no longer published but trainee hearing therapists may access the reference through the Training Lead – Hearing, Your Way | Kia Roha.
 Hull, Raymond H., *Aural Rehabilitation: Serving Children and Adults*, 4th Ed (San Diego, CA: Singular Publishing Group, 2000), is the primary reference for the following tests – Utley Speech Reading Test; Denver Quick Speechreading Test.

Jeffers, Janet; and Barley, Margaret; *Speechreading* (Springfield, IL: Charles C National Acoustics Laboratory (Australia) is the primary reference for the following tests – Client-Oriented Scale of Improvement (COSI) <http://www.nal.gov.au/>. Thomas, 1980), is the primary reference for the following test – Barley Speechreading Test.

Weinstein, Barbara E; *Geriatric Audiology* (New York: Thieme, 2000), is the primary reference for the Hearing Handicap Inventory for the Elderly (HHIE).

- 3 This unit standard cannot be assessed against in a simulated environment. It is required that people seeking credit for this unit standard demonstrate competence and be assessed in the workplace. This can be through paid or unpaid employment, or in placements in a service provider workplace negotiated by an education provider.
- 4 An ability to integrate theory with practice in the workplace must be demonstrated. This will call for a variety of modes of assessment and forms of evidence to show consistency of performance across a range of situations.
- 5 The communication partner does not necessarily need to be present at consultation(s). The person receiving the services will be taught strategies and will share with the identified communication partners as required.
- 6 Definitions
Communication partners are the individuals or groups of people whom the individual receiving services has identified as the priority contact(s) for given situations.
Organisational standards refer to the policies, procedures and practices which reflect an organisation's service philosophy and the current and relevant ethical, legislative regulatory and contractual requirements to which the setting or role is subject.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Use assessment tools to determine the communication capability of a person who is impacted by hearing loss.

Range assessment tools may include but are not limited to – Sent-Ident, Hearing in Noise Test (HINT), Speech Perception in Noise test (SPIN), California Consonant Test (CCT), Denver Quick Speechreading Test, Barley Speechreading Test, Utley Speechreading Test, Topicon, Erber's Quest-AR; evidence is required of two assessment tools.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 The application of assessment tools is explained in accordance with the supplied clinical guidelines.
- 1.2 Assessment tools are administered in accordance with organisational standards and the identified needs of the person and their communication partner(s).

- 1.3 Assessment outcomes are evaluated in relation to the identified needs of the person and their communication partner(s).
- 1.4 The use of each assessment tool used to determine the person's communication capability is explained in terms of the theory that underpins the function of that tool.

Outcome 2

Use assessment tools to identify the psychosocial needs of a person who is impacted by hearing loss.

Range assessment tools may include but are not limited to – a range of Hearing Handicap Inventories, Quantified Denver Scale of Communication, Sanders Needs Communication Profile, Client-Oriented Scale of Improvement (COSI), Behavioural Inventory for Rehabilitation Therapy (BIRT), Partner Orientated Scale of Improvement (POSI);
evidence is required of two assessment tools.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 The application of assessment tools is explained in accordance with each tool's supplied clinical guidelines.
- 2.2 Assessment tools are administered in accordance with organisational standards and the identified needs of the person and their communication partner(s).
- 2.3 The results obtained from the tool are interpreted in accordance with organisational standards.
- 2.4 Assessment outcomes are evaluated in relation to the identified needs of the person and their communication partner(s).
- 2.5 The use of each assessment tool used to determine the person's psychosocial needs is explained in terms of the theory that underpins the function of that tool.

Outcome 3

Identify hearing assistive technologies available to a person who is impacted by hearing loss, in relation to their communication abilities and needs, and their psychosocial needs.

Range hearing assistive technologies may include but are not limited to – hearing aids, cochlear implants, other hearing assistive devices;
evidence is required of three.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Identified hearing assistive technologies are described in accordance with the assessed communication abilities and needs of the person, and with consideration of the communication partner(s).

- 3.2 Identified hearing assistive technologies are described in accordance with the assessed psychosocial needs of the person, with consideration of the communication partner(s)

Outcome 4

Identify the professional supports available to a person who is impacted by hearing loss for their identified communication and psychosocial needs.

Range professional supports may include but are not limited to – hearing therapist, audiologist, general practitioner, otorhinolaryngologist, ear nurse specialist, speech-language therapist, counsellor, psychologist, rehabilitationist.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Support professionals are identified in accordance with the communication abilities and needs of the person and with consideration of their communication partner(s).
- 4.2 Support professionals are identified in accordance with the psychosocial needs of the person and with consideration of their communication partner(s).
- 4.3 Referral to professional support is made in accordance with the identified communication and psychosocial needs of the person and with consideration of their communication partner(s).

Outcome 5

Identify social, recreational, and vocational support services available to a person who is impacted by hearing loss.

Range support services may include but are not limited to – notetaking, interpreting, employment advice, vocational guidance counselling, social worker support, funding advice, budget advisory service.

Performance criteria

- 5.1 Support services are identified in accordance with assessed communication needs of the person and with consideration of their communication partner(s).
- 5.2 Support services are identified in accordance with the assessed psychosocial needs of the person and with consideration of their communication partner(s).
- 5.3 Referral to support services is made in accordance with the assessed communication and psychosocial needs of the person and with consideration of their communication partner(s).

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

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 info@toitutewaiora.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.