Referring a child for a hearing test
To make an appointment for a hearing evaluation for a child, contact our clinic at 206-598-9347. Referrals can be faxed to 206-598-7815.

Insurance/Funding
As part of the University of Washington Medical Center, we accept a variety of medical insurance plans, including medical coupons, for clinical services. For specific information regarding plans accepted at UWMC, call 1-206-598-4320. Some medical plans require that the family physician refer for services. For families whose insurance does not fund hearing aids, we will assist in obtaining funding from other agencies.

Location
The CHDD building is located directly behind the University of Washington Medical Center.

Staff
Lisa Mancl, M.S., CCC-A
Lisa is a certified pediatric audiologist and clinical supervisor of graduate students in the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences. Lisa has been the lead audiologist in the Pediatric Audiology Clinic since 1992. She is fluent in American Sign Language.

Richard Folsom, Ph.D., CCC-A
Dr. Folsom is head of the Pediatric Audiology Clinic and professor in the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences. Dr. Folsom is nationally recognized for his expertise in the areas of pediatric audiology, newborn hearing screening, and physiologic assessment of hearing.

Pediatric Audiology
Center on Human Development and Disability (CHDD)
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206-598-9347
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Pediatric Audiology Clinic
Center on Human Development and Disability
University of Washington Medical Center
Comprehensive hearing evaluations
Services for infants and children and their families
The Pediatric Audiology Clinic

Diagnostic Hearing Tests
A child’s hearing can be accurately evaluated as early as birth. A number of tests can be used to determine the degree and type of hearing loss.

- Behavioral Assessment
  Visual reinforcement and play audiometry techniques are used with infants and children over the age of 6 months to determine hearing sensitivity.

- Brainstem Auditory Evoked Response (BAER)
  The BAER is a physiological test conducted during sleep that provides an evaluation of the auditory system. The BAER test is routinely conducted in infants younger than 6 months of age and with any child where behavioral testing has not been successful.

- Evoked Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE)
  Recording of OAEs is also a physiological measure of auditory function specific to the cochlea. In conjunction with the BAER, OAEs provide a complete evaluation of the auditory system.

- Immittance Testing
  Tympanometry is a measure of the function of the outer and middle ear and is used routinely to determine the status of the conductive mechanism.

Hearing Aids and Family Follow-up

- Hearing Aids
  If a permanent hearing loss is identified, hearing aids or other amplification devices are often recommended regardless of age. A range of devices are fit at the Pediatric Audiology Clinic, including programmable and digital hearing aids as well as FM systems. The Desired Sensation Level (DSL) hearing aid prescription for children and real ear measures are used to custom fit hearing aids for an infant or child.

- Parent Education and Counseling
  Educating parents and helping them to make decisions for their children are integral parts of the process of diagnosing and managing hearing problems.

- Follow-up and Referrals
  If a hearing problem is identified, the child is monitored closely through the clinic’s follow-up system to ensure that children and their families are contacted for follow-up visits and do not “fall through the cracks.” When a child is referred to other professionals, the audiologist at CHDD may function as a case manager to help the family coordinate visits and information.

- Multidisciplinary Evaluations
  If there are concerns about a child’s general development, the audiologist may recommend that the child be seen by other specialists. CHDD offers multidisciplinary assessments by pediatricians, speech-language pathologists, psychologists, physical and occupational therapists, nutritionists, and social workers.

Visit our website at http://www.chdd.washington.edu/ucedd/ctu_5/audclinic_5.html