

HEARING SCREENING PRIOR TO SLP EVALUATION

FACILITY	Does your practice require a hearing assessment prior to being seen by a SLP for a Speech language disorder?	If so, when does this occur? (Before the evaluation or before treatment.)	If not, what parameters do you have in place to make sure you are not unknowingly treating a patient with an undiagnosed hearing loss?	Do you have specific protocol or process map you will be willing to share?	Comments
ORG A	It is recommended, but not required.		SLP eval includes an attempt to complete a hearing screen and if unable to be completed, patient should be referred for a hearing assessment with audiology (primarily done if there is a diagnosed speech/language delay at time of SLP evaluation.	No	Actively engaging leadership in both Speech and Audiology to work on a solution for this ongoing where a hearing evaluation is checked off prior to speech therapy.

<p>ORG B</p>	<p>A hearing evaluation is not required however scheduling allows us to capture most kids under 4 years of age because these children are scheduled for both a hearing evaluation with an audiologist and the speech evaluation within the same phone call. For children 4 or over, the SLP performs a hearing screen as part of the speech evaluation.</p>	<p>Hearing evaluation slots- may occur before or after the evaluation.</p>	<p>If a child receives a speech evaluation without a hearing evaluation scheduled, then the SLP notes this in the report along with the recommendations of a hearing evaluation. If the hearing evaluation is within a week of the speech eval, then the report is not finished until hearing component is completed in order to document necessary recommendations or next steps should the child be diagnosed with hearing loss. Children starting treatment without a hearing evaluation will be recommended for one. SLP's will work with schedulers to get the child a hearing evaluation in order to rule out any hearing loss that may be contributing to the speech and/or language disorder.</p>	<p>We do not have a process map</p>	
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ORG C	Primary care providers are responsible for hearing screening prior to the speech evaluation. If screening is failed, then audiological evaluation.				
ORG D	Our protocol is that any patient under age 4 that is scheduled for a speech evaluation is also scheduled for an audiological evaluation (with ORG D Audiology) prior to their speech evaluation appointment. We are in the same building and same department, so it's easy to make this happen for our patients. If over 4, SLP will attempt to screen hearing at the time of the evaluation. If they do not pass screening, we try to work them into audiology same-day or schedule f/u within a few weeks.				

ORG E	No	Not a requirement	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Clinically look at the patient and see if they are responding to sound and voices.2. Be sure they passed the newborn hearing screening or f/u if required.3. Ask if a pediatrician has screened them.4. Any doubt then they can be screened in the evaluation or refer to audiology for full eval.5. We encourage SLP's to screen the hearing in the evals.		
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ORG E	<p>Our SLP's always ask if a hearing test has been done within the last 6 months and if not, we recommend one in the report(and tell parent). Our orders are set up so the first one says, "Speech/Language Evaluation with Hearing Test", so many of our doctors remember to order both! In those cases, we try to do the it the same day, but if wait too long for that, we allow them to start therapy before the hearing test.</p>				
ORG F	<p>We believe it is best practice, and we are required by most of our payers to submit proof of hearing testing/screening prior to evaluation or therapy (depending on payer.)</p>	<p>Both, usually before the evaluation. Some payers allow us to do a hearing screening at the time of the evaluation- or we will bring them in to see SLP prior to evaluation to do the hearing screen.</p>	<p>N/A We either have the testing or the SLP does the screening as part of her evaluation if not required by the payer ahead of time..</p>	<p>Nothing in writing. We follow standard hearing screening guidelines.</p>	

ORG G	We do not have audiology in our organization and do not require testing. Hearing testing typically happens in the local schools.				
ORG H	We do not require- could be seen as soliciting or self-referral.		Case history and clinical history& interview. SLP staff recommend hearing assessment if any red flags; parent can obviously choose to f/u or not.		

ORG I	<p>Not at this time, although this is best practice. We have two locations for speech, one location also has audiology and we used to routinely do hearing assessments at that location prior to evaluation. Now audiology schedules are too far out to accommodate hearing assessment PRIOR to the SLP evaluation. We will schedule in our next available spot and then cancel them if a speech-delay was not found. At our other location, we get pushback from families due to having to travel to a different location. We do not want this to delay speech-language assessment and intervention.</p>	See answer to #1	<p>None. Educate SLP's about making sure this is completed, but there is unfortunately is not always buy in from the clinicians. They sometimes feel that this is an unnecessary cost. We will do case reviews to help them understand why it is important.</p>	We do not.	
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ORG J	We ask if a hearing screen has been completed and passed prior to SLP evaluation. At SLP eval, if a deficit of disorder is identified, the SLP will refer for an audiological evaluation by a licensed audiologist, if not previously completed within the prior 12 months. If hearing screen was referred, patient will be scheduled for an audiological evaluation by a licensed audiologist prior to SLP eval.	Before eval, but if parent/PCP reports normal hearing, we may proceed with eval and request hearing eval prior to treatment.		Questionnaire set up in Epic for schedulers; audio guideline.	
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