

Physician Checklist: Hearing Health for Adults



Strong evidence for the following actions:

Requires ENT consultation within 24 hours:

- Sudden hearing loss



Refer for audiology consultation:

- Complaints by patient or family of hearing loss or communication difficulties
- Tinnitus
- Mental health issues such as depression/anxiety/social isolation, particularly in older adults
- Symptoms of cognitive decline/dementia
- History of falls or vertigo
- Noise exposure
- Risk factors such as family history, immunodeficiency disease, type 2 diabetes, chronic kidney disease, viral infection
- Concussion, TBI, or head injury
- Ototoxic medications

Counselling your patients about hearing health care:

- Discuss what might happen at the audiology appointment
- Health risks associated with untreated hearing loss

Weak evidence for the following actions:

Consider screening tools for your clinic:

- Questionnaires
- Screening Technology (e.g., apps)

Other audiology referral criteria:

- All patients age 65+ years
- Concerns about hearing-related safety in the home

Strong evidence against:

- Tuning fork tests



Canadian Coalition for
Adult Hearing Health

Coalition Canadienne pour la
Santé Auditive des Adultes

Visit [ccaahh.ca](http://ccahh.ca) for evidence
behind these actions and
details about implementation

