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You are entitled to a copy of any letter we write about you. Please ask if you want one when you come to the hospital.

If you are unhappy with the advice you have been given by your GP, consultant, or another healthcare professional, you may ask for a second (or further) opinion.

The evidence used in the preparation of this leaflet is available on request. Please email: [patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@salisbury.nhs.uk) if you would like a reference list.

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Date written: December 2009  
Last reviewed: March 2016  
Review date: March 2019  
Version: 1.2  
Code: PI0457

## The Hearing Aid Service

If you're aged 60 years and over and hearing loss is the only symptom, you can be referred directly to Audiology by your GP. If you have a more complex history or symptoms you will be referred to the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist in the first instance.

### What happens at the first appointment?

An Audiologist will examine your ears and take a history about your symptoms and hearing difficulties; a hearing test will then be performed. This involves wearing headphones and pressing a button when you hear a sound; this will show how well you can hear at various frequencies.

The Audiologist will discuss the results with you and advise whether a hearing aid/s is/are appropriate. For a hearing loss in both ears wearing two hearing aids is likely to help much more than just wearing one. If you decide to go ahead and have a hearing aid/s, an impression of your ear canal will be taken to make an earmould. An appointment to fit the hearing aid will be sent to you once the earmould has been received back from the manufacturer.

### What happens at the fitting appointment?

The Audiologist will fit your hearing aid/s, as accurately as possible, to match your hearing loss. You will be told how to look after the aid, how to fit it and how to get the most benefit from your aid/s.

### Will I need a follow-up appointment?

You'll be offered a follow-up appointment four to six weeks after the fitting so that an audiologist can check your progress and help with any problems.

### For more information

All patients receive information detailing our repair service. If you have any problems with your aid please telephone/fax or e-mail for an appointment.

Tel: 01722 429335 (direct line) or 01722 336262 ext 4801

Fax: 01722 429336

Email: [audiology@salisbury.nhs.uk](mailto:audiology@salisbury.nhs.uk)

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