



Bradford Teaching Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Adult **Audiology**

Hearing Aid Fitting

Appointment Information



Following your recent hearing assessment, it was decided that you may benefit from:

- a) trying a hearing aid(s) to help with your hearing difficulties**
- or**
- b) upgrading your current hearing aid(s)**

What will happen at the hearing aid fitting appointment?

During this session you will be fitted with your new hearing aid(s) and the fit and sound will be checked by an Audiologist. Information you previously provided regarding your hearing difficulties and expectations (eg. hearing in group situations, over the phone, etc) will be beneficial in setting the hearing aid(s) to match your needs.

It is important to realise that digital hearing aids are ultimately still only amplifiers and cannot restore your natural hearing. Although the aids will be programmed to match your needs as best as possible, realistic expectations will be discussed. It will take some time to adapt to the new sounds experienced through the aids, as well as the sensation of having something in your ear.

Once your hearing aid(s) have been programmed, the Audiologist will discuss care, use and expectations. You will also be given information on how to obtain batteries and what to do if you experience any problems with the aid(s).

What do digital hearing aids look like?

Digital hearing aids can fit behind the ear or in the ear.

The most common hearing aid fitted on the NHS is the behind-the-ear model, which is attached to an ear-mould, made at your last appointment. The hearing aid colour and mould type will have been discussed with you previously.

What should I do if I have any questions or concerns regarding the nature of the fitting procedure?

Please contact the department to discuss your concerns with an Audiologist.

How long will the appointment last?

The fitting appointment can take approximately one hour.

Please allow sufficient time prior to your allocated appointment time for travel and parking (which is limited).

Can I bring along a family member, friend or carer?

Yes. It is advisable to bring a significant other if possible, as your hearing problems and concerns affect those close to you. You may bring up to 2 people with you to the appointment, for support.

What should I do if I have any special personal (eg. mobility difficulties, visual impairment) or communication needs?

Please contact us prior to your appointment and we will do our best to arrange any specific requirements you may have.

What should I do if I need an interpreter?

Please contact the department prior to the appointment if you require an interpreter.

Additional Information

Please be aware that Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is a Teaching Hospital and as such, you may be seen by a student under the direct supervision of a qualified Audiologist. If you would prefer not to be seen by a student, please inform us in advance of your appointment.



Contact Details

If you have any questions about this information leaflet or your appointment, please contact the Audiology Department:

Adult Audiology Department

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Bradford Royal Infirmary

Duckworth Lane

Bradford BD9 6RJ

West Yorkshire

Telephone: 01274 364071

Fax: 01274 382410

SMS Text: 07947 478944

We use Next Generation Text for people with hearing difficulties. This used to be called BT Text Relay. To contact us ring 18001 01274 364071

Email: audiology.department@bthft.nhs.uk

Trust Website: www.bradfordhospitals.nhs.uk

Audiology office opening hours:

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm

Answerphone available for messages outside of opening hours.

Please enquire at the Audiology department if you wish to obtain this leaflet in an alternative language or format.

Smoking

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is a smoke-free organisation. You are not permitted to smoke in any of the hospital buildings or grounds, with the exception of the smoking shelters which are provided for visitors and patients only.

Author: Anna Skibinska on behalf of Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

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