AUDIOLOGY SERVICES

Purpose:

To define the role of Audiology Services in the administration of hearing, balance assessment, and aural rehabilitation to the patients of LSU Health Sciences Center.

Policy:

1. Audiology services shall provide hearing testing on an outpatient basis in the ENT Clinic of LSUHSC, as deemed necessary by ENT residents and staff during clinic hours. A standard audiological battery includes:

   A. An audiogram
   B. Speech reception threshold
   C. Speech discrimination score
   D. Tympanogram

2. Audiology Services shall provide hearing testing on an inpatient and outpatient basis for physicians of LSUHSC, as well as for physicians of facilities outside of LSUHSC. A written consult or physician’s prescription must be submitted to Audiology Services in the ENT Clinic prior to the administration of the hearing evaluation. Reasons for consult include:

   A. Decreased hearing
   B. Decreased speech understanding
   C. Failed hearing screening
   D. Tinnitus

3. Audiology Services shall provide the following special tests upon the recommendation of a physician:

   A. Stapedial Reflex Measures
   B. Eustachian Tube Function Test
   C. Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) testing
   D. Electronystagmography (ENG) testing
   E. Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE) testing

4. Audiology Services will determine hearing aid candidacy based on the audiological test results and make the appropriate recommendations for amplification and/or aural rehabilitation. Periodic monitoring of hearing
aid benefit is provided for children fit with hearing aids through Children’s Special Health Services or Medicaid assistance.

5. Audiology Services will provide newborn hearing screening in the 4J nursery and NICU in accordance with the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Law (ACT 653) of Louisiana, as well as the protocols provided by the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing 2000 Position Statement.

6. Inpatient audiology assessments are completed within 48 hours of consult if deemed necessary by the on-call ENT physician. Consult the on-call ENT physician to manage emergency consults after clinic hours, on weekends, and holidays. Outpatients are assessed as scheduled.

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Administrator

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Date

Approved by Clinical Board: 3/20/01, 7/15/03
Written: 3/97
Reviewed: 2/99, 5/03
Revised: 1/01, 6/03