

Hearing and Vision Screening Quick Reference Guide

Hearing Screening Procedures

Refer to [Hearing Screening Training Manual \(www.health.state.mn.us\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us) for more information

1. Family and individual history (all ages)
 - Joint Commission on Infant Hearing risk factors reviewed with the parent or caregiver
 - A positive response indicates a need for referral
 - Observation of behavior and symptoms by parent/caregiver/teacher/child
 - Risk of noise-induced hearing loss for ages 11-21 years
2. Visual inspection (all ages)
 - External structures
 - Internal structures (by otoscopic exam)*
3. Pure tone audiometry for children 3 years and older
 - Play Audiometry may be more effective for 3-4 year-olds
4. Otoacoustic Emissions (OAE) or Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR)*
 - For children birth to 3 years who have risk factors
 - For children 3 years and older who are unable to perform pure tone audiometry
5. Tympanometry*

**Advanced level skills/screening; ABR requires referral to audiologist*

Required/Recommended Ages

Child and Teen Checkups:

- Newborn Hearing Screening result on file; follow up if not done or not passed
- Risk assessment: Birth – 3 years
- Pure tone audiometry: Recommended at 3 years; required annually between the ages of four through 10 years, at least once between the ages of 11 through 14 years, at least once between the ages of 15 through 17 years and at least once between the ages of 18 through 20 years

School:

- Pure tone audiometry: Early Childhood Screening required once between 3-5 years
- Pure tone audiometry recommended for grades K, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 11

PASS Criteria: Pure Tone Audiometry

Responds to all age-appropriate tones screened in each ear

Equipment

- Pure tone audiometer for ages 3 and older
- Small bucket and toys if screening by play audiometry
- Otoscope with insufflator bulb for internal inspection
- Optional: tympanometer, otoacoustic emissions (OAE) equipment

Vision Screening Procedures

Refer to [Vision Screening Procedures for Infancy, Childhood and School Age Children \(www.health.state.mn.us\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us) for more information

Personnel Responsibilities

Lay Screeners (with recommended training):

1. Vision History and Risk Assessment (all ages)
 - Concerns about the eyes: complaints or unusual visual behavior the child may demonstrate
 - Family history of significant visual problems
2. External inspection and observation (all ages)
3. Binocular Fix and Follow (4 months through 3 years of age or when visual acuity can be measured)
4. Corneal Light Reflex (all ages)
5. Unilateral Cover Test – At Near (six months through 20 years of age)
6. Unilateral Cover Test – At Distance (three years through 20 years of age)
7. Stereo Acuity Screening (optional; three through 8 years of age)
8. Color Vision Deficiency Screening (kindergarten males)
9. Monocular Distance Visual Acuity (three years through 20 years)
10. Plus Lenses (five years and older)
11. Instrument-based vision screening (alternate format for screening children 3 through 5 years of age)

Health Professionals can perform the following procedures

1. Pupillary Light Response (newborn through 20 years of age)
2. Retinal (Red Light) Reflex (newborn through 20 years of age)

Required/Recommended Ages

Child and Teen Checkups:

- Risk assessment and exam as indicated in the vision screening sections above
- Visual acuity screening required annually from three through 10 years and once between the ages of 11-14 years, once between the ages of 15 through 17 years and once between the ages of 18 through 20 years

Schools:

- Early Childhood Screening required once between 3-5 years of age
- Visual acuity screening recommended for grades 1, 3, 5, 7, 10

PASS Criteria: Visual Acuity Screening

Age 3 years:

- 10/25 (20/50) or better in each eye and a 1 or no-line difference between eyes in the PASS range

Age 4 years:

- 10/20 (20/40) or better in each eye and a 1 or no-line difference between eyes in the PASS range

Age 5 years and older:

- 10/16 (20/32) or better in each eye and a 1 or no-line difference between eyes in the PASS range

Equipment

- Charts: LEA or HOTV for 3 through 5 years (at 10 feet) or Sloan for 6 years and older (at 10 feet)
- Occluder glasses: Recommend specially constructed occluder glasses for visual acuity screening for children younger than 10 years of age. Purchase plastic occluders with lips online for screening children 10 years of age and older
- Plus Lens Glasses+2.50.

The Child and Teen Checkups (C&TC) program is administered through a partnership between the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Minnesota Department of Health. For questions email health.childandteencheckups@state.mn.us or call 651-201-3760.

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