

Dear parents

This document serves to prepare you for what to expect when your child undergoes **Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR)** testing at our clinic.

What is an ABR test?

The ABR is an objective test that can be used to estimate hearing sensitivity and to identify neurological abnormalities of the auditory nerve and the auditory pathway up to the level of the brainstem. This testing requires no active response from your child and relies on the neural response to the sound provided. Following this test the integrity of the auditory nerve as well as the hearing thresholds will be identified.

What to expect?

The audiologist will place three electrode stickers on your child's head. One on the forehead and one behind each ear. The audiologist will attach the clip on electrodes to these stickers. Following this the audiologist places a sponge earphone into each ear canal and the test is ready to begin. Your child is required to lie quietly while the test runs. They are allowed to sleep.

Recommendations

Our test equipment is unique in the sense that we can run the ABR without the need for sedation, as long as your child will tolerate the electrodes and sit relatively quietly for the duration of the test. Should your child not tolerate the test process, we can arrange for a sedated ABR at an alternative appointment and location. We prefer to attempt a non-sedated ABR for medical and financial reasons.

It is recommended that you sleep deprive your child the morning of your consultation so that they will be more likely to fall asleep. Putting them to bed slightly later the night before and wake them up a little earlier than usual. Try and schedule your appointment around an hour before their usual nap time.

Please also bring things that will comfort your child, and are likely to induce sleep, such as their favourite blanket or sleepy toys. If you usually get them to sleep in a certain way, please bring those items along with you. We do have a camp cot available for your use.

Additionally, please bring along any item that may keep your child quietly entertained, such as toys, stickers, etc that they enjoy. We do have an iPad available for your use. Please also bring ample snacks and drinks along for yourself and your child.

Please bring along any previous test results that may have been conducted.

How long will the test take?

The test is likely to take 3 hours, depending on the information required. We can split this over two sessions if necessary. Please advise us beforehand if you would like to do so.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us directly on 0114634639 or info@sandonhearing.co.za