

Useful information for your hearing impaired clients.

I am the new Audiologist at Southland Hospital and thought that an information sheet on services available to hearing impaired patients may be useful for you.

Currently at the hospital we are only fitting children with hearing aids. Hearing aids for children are provided free of charge to approved patients.

Di Brown is the local advisor for deaf children and can visit hearing impaired children in school and make recommendations to parents and teachers regarding learning and communication strategies. Her contact number is **03 2182442** and mailing address is **PO Box 887 Invercargill**.

ACC patients and other adults should be referred to a private audiologist however we are happy to test hearing and advise as to whether hearing aids are likely to be of benefit. We can also sell patient's batteries for \$7.50 a packet. Please note that if an appointment is required a **sensorineural hearing loss will be prioritised as routine** (unless there are other symptoms of concern) with a waiting list of one month.

Private Audiologists in Invercargill

Bay Audiology

Bryan Forde (Can see ACC)
5 Dublin St, Invercargill
Ph: 03 217 1940
Fax: 03 217 0941

Audiology South

Gordon Mather (can see ACC)
Nick Muir
80 Victoria Ave, Invercargill
Ph: 032141378
Fax: 032141379

Hearing Therapy Services are provided through life unlimited and are **free** for people 16 years and over. They provide the following services:

- Evaluate hearing
- Talk about hearing aids and other assistive devices
- Help use hearing aids/technology more effectively
- Teach speech reading and provide auditory training
- Provide information and advice on Tinnitus
- They can also refer to other hearing professionals when needed

I hope that this information has been of assistance to you in the management of your hearing impaired patients. Please contact me at the hospital on 032145750 if you have any questions about this information.

Yours Sincerely,

Renee
Audiologist