

QS4 The child's listening response must be checked with the complete system in place.

How do I check the child can hear through the system?

As part of the usual setting up procedures for personal radio aid systems, a listening check through the whole system is recommended (see also GPG QS7.)

Check all components of the hearing device and the radio aid system. It is useful to have a dedicated testing kit for troubleshooting (with spare items if available). Some manufacturers produce dedicated items for listening checks including equipment for auditory implants (see www.connevans.co.uk for hearing aid care kits and implant manufacturer sites www.advancedbionics.com/uk/, www.cochlear.com/uk, www.medel.com/uk/).

Care should be taken to protect the tester's ears; for example, 'stetoclip' hearing aid listeners with an attenuator are available from www.connevans.co.uk.

A regular listening check ensures that the child can hear through the system both at close range and from a distance using audition alone. The frequency of checking will depend on the listening stage of the child.

A simple routine can be established. Repeating numbers, completing nursery rhymes, following simple commands such as pointing to parts of the body, using the 6 Ling (Ling 1989) sounds or other appropriate listening checks can be used.

Further information on the Ling 6 check can be found at

https://www.advancedbionics.com/uk/en/support/tools_for_schools.html

<http://www.cochlear.com/wps/wcm/connect/uk/home/support/rehabilitation-resources/early-intervention/chit-chat>

<http://www.medel.com/blog/all-about-the-ling-six-sound-test/>

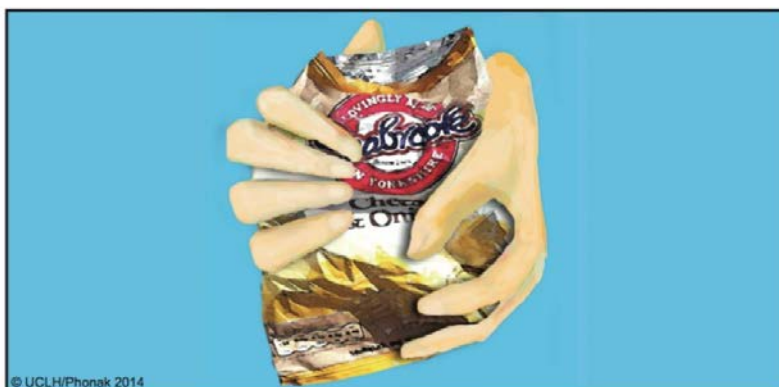
Good Practice Guide for Radio Aids

An iPad app using LING sounds is available:



How do I check that the quality of the sound is acceptable if the child cannot report this?

It is important for the user to be able to report interference, noise, or a problem with the sound if this arises. So children should be helped to develop the skills and language needed to judge and describe sound quality.



Voice with Crackling Noise

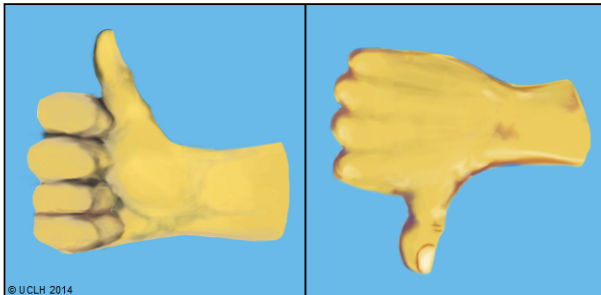
Good Practice Guide for Radio Aids

The Cochlear Implant Team at the Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital in London and Phonak UK have jointly developed a useful downloadable resource.

It features 9 coloured printable picture cards with 9 audio files of common radio aid faults and is available at:

<https://www.uclh.nhs.uk/OURSERVICES/SERVICEAZ/ENTS/CIM/Pages/FMTrainingTool.aspx>

Any routine or procedure should be adapted to ensure those with delayed language or a complex profile can benefit fully from a personal radio aid system.



Good Sound

Bad Sound



Too Loud