



Dear Doctor,

Your patient has taken an online hearing check provided by RNID (Royal National Institute for Deaf People). Their result shows they might have hearing loss.

For adults who present for the first time with hearing difficulties, NICE guideline [NG98] recommends the following:

- exclude impacted wax and acute infections such as otitis externa, then
- arrange an audiological assessment, and
- refer to ear, nose and throat for additional diagnostic assessment if needed.

We would greatly appreciate it if you would arrange the above. Evidence shows that the earlier someone receives support for their hearing loss, the more likely they are to benefit long term.

ABOUT RNID'S ONLINE HEARING CHECK

The hearing check is a 'speech-in-noise' test. It assesses the ability to hear someone speaking when there's background noise.

The hearing check does not provide a medical diagnosis, but it is a reliable tool to identify when someone might have hearing loss. It then gives impartial information about how to get a full hearing assessment. The NHS website now signposts members of the public to the check.

Yours faithfully,

Franki Oliver
Audiology Manager at RNID

To take the hearing
check, go to
**[rnid.org.uk/
check-your-hearing](https://rnid.org.uk/check-your-hearing)**



SUPPORT FOR GPs

RNID has developed an online toolkit in collaboration with the Royal College of GPs (RCGP) to:

- support GPs to consult effectively with deaf patients
- identify early symptoms of hearing loss
- refer patients for a hearing assessment and follow-up.

To access the toolkit, go to **[rcgp.org.uk/clinical-and-research/
resources/toolkits/deafness-and-hearing-loss-toolkit](https://rcgp.org.uk/clinical-and-research/resources/toolkits/deafness-and-hearing-loss-toolkit)**

