



**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND CONSUMER SERVICES
MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION DIVISION
Raleigh, North Carolina**

Steve Troxler, Commissioner

MPID NOTICE	2-11	1-31-11
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERFORMING AUDIOGRAMS

I. PURPOSE

This document is issued to ensure employees do not suffer hearing loss due to exposure of excessive noise levels and to ensure agency compliance with OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.95. Included in this document are instructions for MPID employees who require baseline audiograms and annual hearing tests.

II. REFERENCES

Department of Agriculture Medical Protocols: Hearing Conservation Program
OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.95

III. CANCELLATION

MPIS Notice 14-08, dated 10-22-08

IV. PROCEDURE

The Area Supervisor or qualified designee shall record noise measurements in each establishment in the area at a frequency of at least once per calendar year, and whenever new equipment is put in use in an establishment. These measurements shall be posted prominently on the wall of the Inspector's office / work space. All MPID Employees are required to wear hearing protection at all times that they are in an area on the inspected premises where noise levels are 85 decibels or higher.

The Hearing Conservation Program of the Department of Agriculture includes all employees exposed to noise levels per the attached OSHA Table G-16. Area Supervisors shall determine which inspection assignments are subject to the hearing conservation program. The current employees holding those inspection assignments shall be recorded on the supervisor's quarterly Safety by Objectives Report.

Baseline Audiograms – A valid baseline audiogram shall be established for each employee exposed to noise at or above 50% daily noise dose (DND) against which subsequent audiograms can be compared. This baseline can be obtained by:

Testing to be preceded by **14 hours** without exposure to workplace noise. The employee should also be advised to avoid high levels of non-occupational noise exposure for the 14 hours preceding the test. OR:

A preplacement audiogram to be done before hiring or assignment to a job at which employee exposure has been identified to be at or above 50% DND. OR:

Obtained within 6 months of an employee's first exposure at or above the noise levels and exposure times listed in OSHA Table G-16.

Area Supervisors are responsible for ensuring all inspectors requiring an annual audiogram in their area receive an annual audiogram between September 1 and October 30 of each calendar year.

Audiologists are to bill MPID directly. Inspection personnel should not pay at the time of the testing. The Raleigh Office has compiled the attached list of audiologists who have agreed to bill our Agency. These are the only audiologists that MPID employees should use. Each participating audiologist will be provided a copy of the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services' Hearing Conservation Policy.

When making appointments for hearing testing and evaluation, it is imperative to remind the audiologist to send their invoice and a copy of the hearing test results including an interpretation of those results to the NCDA & CS Meat & Poultry Inspection Division, 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1001. The envelope should be marked "CONFIDENTIAL" and sent to the attention of Pamela Flood. The attached Memorandum to Audiologists should be taken with you to your appointment.

Any questions on this matter should be directed to Pamela Flood or Dr. Karen Beck.

ATTACHMENTS: [List of participating Audiologists](#)
[Memorandum to Audiologists](#)

Dr. Karen Beck
State Director

DISTRIBUTION:
MPID In-Plant, Supervisory, and Veterinary
Personnel

SUBJECT CATEGORY:
Safety

OSHA's Table G-16

Length of Time: Hours / Day	Noise Level in Decibels
8	90
6	92
4	95
2	100
1.5	102
1	105
.5	110
.25 or less	115

**The following audiologists have agreed to provide hearing testing for NCDA Meat and Poultry
Inspection Personnel**

Accent Urgent Care

2406 Blue Ridge Road
Suite 190
Raleigh, NC 27607
(919) 789-4322

Accent Urgent Care

212 Ashville Avenue
Suite 10
Cary, NC 27518
(919) 859-1136

Alamance ENT

1248 Huffman Mill Rd., Suite 200
Burlington, NC 27215
(336) 226-2298

Alamance ENT

102B Medical Park Drive
Mebane, NC 27302

Appalachian State University

P. O. Box 32041
Boone, NC 28608
(828) 262-2185 (Susan)

Bright Audiology & Speech, Inc.

211 Carbonton Rd.
Sanford, NC 27330-0000
(919) 774-3277

Coastal ENT Associates

Murvin R. Hymel, Ph. D. FAAA
445 Western Blvd.
Suite O
Jacksonville, NC 28546
(910) 455-9884

Coastal ENT

Terry A. Hall, FAAA
3110 Wellons Blvd.

New Bern, NC 28562
(252) 638-2515

Davidson Ears, Nose and Throat
1213 Lexington Ave.
Thomasville, NC
(336) 472-1300 (Kelly Anderson)

Doctor's Hearing Care Center
2140-C W. Arlington
Greenville, NC 27834
(252) 355-0909

Eastern ENT Sinus & Allergy, P.A.
Tennille Lewis, Ext. 131
2707 Medical Office Place
Goldsboro, NC 27534
(919) 735-9146

Eastern Carolina Ear, Nose and Throat (Added back to List)
927 North Brightleaf Boulevard
Smithfield, NC 27577
(919) 934-0948

Graystone ENT Associates
1781 Tate Blvd. SE
Suite 201
Hickory, NC 28602
(828) 267-0025 (Anita)

Greensboro ENT Associates
321 West Wendover Ave.
Greensboro, NC 27408-8401
(336) 379-9445

The Hearing Center
513 Raleigh Road
Clinton, NC 28328-2405
(910) 592-9095

The Hearing Center, Inc.
2413 Robeson Street #2
Fayetteville, NC 28305
(910) 323-2616

Hearing Services

703 Bryant Street
Statesville, NC 28677
(704) 872-1670

Hearing Services (Thursday only)

Medical Plaza
1919 W. Park Drive
Wilkesboro, NC 28697
(704) 872-1670 (call Statesville office to make appointment)

Hearing Services (Tuesday Mornings only)

114 Morlake Drive; Suite 101A
 Mooresville, NC 28117
(704) 872-1670 (call Statesville office to make appointment)

Kinston Head & Neck Physicians

Jim Dooling, M.S. FAAA
Doctor's Drive
Kinston, NC 28501
(252) 523-0687

Medac

4402 Shipyard Blvd. (in Long Leaf Shopping Center behind Ride Aid)
Wilmington, NC 28403
(910) 452-7000
(910) 791-5359 (fax)

NC Audiology Associates

4002 Barrett Drive
Suite 101
Raleigh, NC 27609
(919) 783-8751

Pardee Urgent Care

212 A. Thompson Street
Hendersonville, NC 28792
(828) 697-3232



Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Meat and Poultry Inspection Division

Joseph W. Reardon
Assistant Commissioner
for Consumer Protection

Dr. Karen Beck
Director

September 17, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Audiologists Participating in NCDA, MPID
Hearing Conservation Program

FROM: Dr. Karen Beck *KB*
State Director

SUBJECT: Annual Hearing Testing for Meat and Poultry Inspection Personnel

Thank you for agreeing to perform audiograms for NCDA Meat and Poultry Inspection Division Personnel. If this is our employee's first visit for hearing testing, please conduct a baseline audiogram. If this employee has had an audiogram at your practice before, please conduct a hearing test to determine if there has been a standard threshold shift when compared to the baseline audiogram. Please send a copy of your invoice and the audiogram results in a confidential envelope addressed to:

Ms. Pamela Flood
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Agriculture Building
Meat and Poultry Inspection Division
1001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1001

All Meat and Poultry Inspection Personnel have been issued credentials that they can show upon request. If you need to verify their employment with our agency, or if you have any questions, please phone Ms. Pamela Flood at 919-707-3180. Thank you.