

AQP or Non AQP?

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What is AQP?

Any Qualified Provider

- The intention is to increase patient choice
- All providers must meet the qualification criteria set for a particular service and once qualified their service will appear on choose and book for patients to select
- Competition is based on quality and not price. All providers will be paid the same price for a particular service.

Inclusions and exclusions based on criteria set
by UHBristol NHS trust

Inclusions

- Symmetrical Hearing loss
- Sensorineural loss
- Over 60

Exclusions

History

- Persisting pain affecting either ear (defined as earache lasting more than 7 days up to 90 days before the appointment)
- History of discharge other than wax in either ear in the last 90 days
- Sudden loss or sudden deterioration of hearing (sudden referring to less than 1 week) refer straight to A&E

- Rapid loss or rapid deterioration in hearing (90 days or less)
- Fluctuating hearing loss, other than associated with a cold
- Unilateral, asymmetrical or pulsatile tinnitus lasting more than 5 minute at a time
- Troublesome tinnitus which is causing sleep deprivation, anxiety or depression

- Abnormal audiometry perceptions
- Vertigo (described as hallucinations of movement) includes dizziness, swaying or floating sensations that may indicate neurological, otological or medical conditions

Ear Examination

- Complete or partial obstruction of the external auditory canal preventing proper examination of the ear drum
- Abnormal appearance of the outer ear and/or the ear drum

Audiometry

- Conductive hearing loss, defined as 25dB or greater air-bone gap present at two or more of the following frequencies: 500, 1000, 2000 or 4000Hz
- Unilateral or symmetrical sensorineural hearing loss, defined as a difference between the left and right bone conduction thresholds of 20dB or greater at two or more of the following frequencies: 500, 1000, 2000 or 4000Hz

- Evidence of deterioration of hearing by comparison with an audiogram taken in the last 24 months, defined as a deterioration of 15dB or more in air conduction threshold readings at two or more of the following frequencies: 500, 1000, 2000 or 4000Hz

References

- <http://www.sor.org/career-progression/managers/any-qualified-provider>
- <http://www.hsj.co.uk/sectors/commissioning/exclusive-ccg-interest-in-any-qualified-provider-scheme-dwindles/5074585.fullarticle>
- <http://www.lancashirenorthccg.nhs.uk/about-us/tenders-procurement-contracting/aqp/>

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