

HEARING SCREENING RESULTS

Your child received a hearing screening today that was performed by students in the Communicative Disorders and Sciences Department at SJSU under my supervision. The screening typically involves two tests although some children are too young to cooperate for both tests. The first test is called Audiometry. Here, children wear headphones and listen for a series of tones that are presented at very soft levels. They may raise their hand or (for younger children) drop a block in a bucket in response. The second test is called Tympanometry. This test is automatic and measures how well the eardrum moves when the air pressure is changed in the ear canal.

RESULTS: AUDIOMETRY

If a child receives a “Pass” on the audiometry portion of the test, it indicates that he or she responded to sounds at soft levels for all of the frequencies that are critical for hearing speech.

If a child receives a “Fail” on the audiometry portion of the test, it indicates that he or she did not respond to all of the test tones at soft levels. It is recommended that he or she receive follow up audiometric testing in a reliable listening environment, i.e, the pediatrician, school nurse, or audiologist’s office.

RESULTS: TYMPANOMETRY

If a child receives a “Pass” on the tympanometry portion of the test, it means that his or her eardrum moved properly.

If a child receives a “Fail,” on the tympanometry portion, it means that the eardrum did not move as well as expected. For children, the most common reasons for a fail are 1) fluid behind the eardrum or 2) wax impaction in the ear canal. Therefore, medical follow up (pediatrician or family doctor) is recommended.