

STATE SCOPES OF PRACTICE FOR AUDIOLOGY

- **Number of states that reference “vestibular” or “balance”: 37 (AL, AR, CA, DC., FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, KS, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NC, ND, OH, OR, NH, NH, NM, NY, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, VT, WA, WV, WI)**
- **Number of states that reference “cerumen”: 16 (AL, AR, CA, IL, MI, MO, MT, NE, NV, NJ, NM, SD, TX, VT, WA, WV)**
- **Number of states that reference “tinnitus”: 12 (AL, DC, FL, MI, MT, OH, NJ, NM, PA, SD, TX, WI,)**
- **Number of states that reference “diagnose”: 9 (MA, MN, NH, NJ, NM, SC, SD, TX, VT,)**

ALABAMA

The practice of audiology includes: (a) Screening, identifying, assessing, interpreting, diagnosing, preventing, and (re)habilitating peripheral and central auditory system dysfunctions; (b) Conducting otoscopic examinations and removing **cerumen** from external ear canal; (c) Providing and interpreting behavioral and (electro)physiological measurements of auditory, **vestibular**, and neural functions. (d) Evaluating and managing children and adults with central auditory processing disorders; 7-3 Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (e) Conducting newborn hearing screening programs; (f) **Assessing and providing nonmedical management of tinnitus;** (g) Facilitating the conservation of auditory system function; developing and implementing environmental and occupational hearing conservation programs; (h) Selecting, fitting, and dispensing of hearing aids, assistive listening and alerting devices and other systems (e.g. implantable devices) and providing training in their use; (i) Providing Audiological (re)habilitation and related counseling services to hearing impaired individuals, their families, and other professionals; (j) Providing related counseling services to individuals with any type of hearing related communication disorder and their family members; (k) Consulting with educators about communication management of children with hearing impairment; (l) Consulting and providing rehabilitative services to persons with balance disorders; (m) Developing and managing academic and clinical programs in communication sciences and disorders; (n) Designing, implementing, analyzing, and interpreting the results of research related to auditory and vestibular systems; (o) Screening of speech-language and other factors affecting communication function for the purposes of an audiological evaluation and/or initial identification of individuals with other communication disorders. (p) Measuring outcomes of treatment and conducting continuous evaluation of the effectiveness of practices and programs to improve and maintain quality of services. Authors: Robin Auerbach, Denise P. Gibbs, Martha W. Paxton, Lissa Van Doorn, Robert L.

ALASKA

8) “practice of audiology” means the application of principles, methods, and procedures of measurement, testing, appraisal, prediction, consultation, habilitation, rehabilitation, counseling and instruction related to hearing and hearing impairment for the purpose of modifying communicative

disorders involving speech, language, auditory function, including auditory training, speech reading and the recommendation, evaluation, fitting, and sale of hearing aids, including the fitting of ear molds;

ARIZONA

"Audiology" means the nonmedical and nonsurgical application of principles, methods and procedures of measurement, testing, evaluation and prediction that are related to hearing, its disorders and related communication impairments for the purpose of nonmedical diagnosis, prevention, amelioration or modification of these disorders and conditions.

ARKANSAS

The practice of audiology includes:

- A. Facilitating the conservation of auditory system function; developing and implementing environmental and occupational hearing conservation programs;
- B. Screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting, diagnosing, preventing, and rehabilitating peripheral and central auditory and **vestibular** system dysfunctions;
- C. **Providing and interpreting behavioral and (electro) physiological measurements of auditory and vestibular & facial nerve functions;**
- D. Selecting, fitting, programming, and dispensing of amplification, assistive listening and alerting devices and other systems (e.g., implantable devices) and providing training in their use;
- E. Providing aural rehabilitation and related counseling services to individuals with hearing loss and their families;
- F. Screening of speech-language and other factors affecting communication function;
- G. Interpreting results, implementing, and monitoring newborn hearing screening programs;
- H. Providing consultation to educators, industry, consumers, and families and the general public about the hearing and balance systems, hearing loss, and hearing conservation;
- I. Advocating for individuals through community awareness, education, and training programs to promote and facilitate access to full participation in communication, including the elimination of societal barriers;
- J. Providing education and administration in audiology and professional education programs.
- K. **Cerumen management** to prevent obstructions of the external ear canal and of amplification devices.

CALIFORNIA

The practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures of measurement, testing, appraisal, prediction, consultation, counseling, and instruction related to auditory, **vestibular**, and related functions and the modification of communicative disorders involving

speech, language, auditory behavior, or other aberrant behavior resulting from auditory dysfunction; and the planning, directing, conducting, supervising, or participating in programs of identification of auditory disorders, hearing conservation, **cerumen removal**, aural habilitation, and rehabilitation, including hearing aid recommendation and evaluation procedures, including, but not limited to, specifying amplification requirements and evaluation of the results thereof, auditory training, and speech reading, and the selling of hearing aids.

CONNECTICUT

The practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods and procedures of measurement, testing, appraisal, prediction, consultation and counseling and the determination and use of appropriate amplification related to hearing and disorders of hearing, including fitting or selling of hearing aids, for the purpose of modifying communicative disorders involving speech, language, auditory function or other aberrant behavior leading to hearing loss.

DELAWARE

"The practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures of measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction, habilitation, rehabilitation related to hearing and disorders of hearing for the purpose of evaluation, identifying, preventing, ameliorating, or modifying such disorders and conditions in individuals and or groups of individuals. For the purposes of this subsection the words "habilitation" and rehabilitation" include, but are not limited to, hearing aid evaluation and recommendation but not the sale of hearing aids.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

(2B) (A) "Practice of audiology" means the planning, directing, supervising, and conducting of habilitative or rehabilitative counseling programs for individuals or groups of individuals who have, or are suspected of having, disorders of hearing; any service in audiology, including prevention, identification, evaluation, consultation, habilitation or rehabilitation, instruction, and research; participating in hearing conservation, hearing aid and assistive listening device evaluation, selection, preparation, dispensing, and orientation; fabricating ear molds; providing auditory training and speech reading; or **administering tests of vestibular function** and **tests for tinnitus**. The practice of audiology includes speech and language screening limited to a pass-or-fail determination for the purpose of identification of individuals with disorders of communication. The practice of audiology does not include the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine, or the performance of a task in the normal practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine by a person to whom the task is delegated by a licensed physician.

FLORIDA

(6)(a) "Practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures for the prevention, identification, evaluation, consultation, habilitation, rehabilitation, instruction, treatment, and research, relative to hearing and the disorders of hearing, and to related language and speech disorders. "Disorders" are defined to include any and all conditions, whether of organic or nonorganic

origin, peripheral or central, that impede the normal process of human communication, including, but not limited to, disorders of auditory sensitivity, acuity, function, or processing, or damage to the integrity of the physiological system.

(b) Any audiologist who has complied with the provisions of this part may:

1. Offer, render, plan, direct, conduct, consult, or supervise services to individuals or groups of individuals who have or are suspected of having disorders of hearing, including prevention, identification, evaluation, treatment, consultation, habilitation, rehabilitation, instruction, and research.
2. Participate in hearing conservation, evaluation of noise environment, and noise control.
3. Conduct and interpret tests of vestibular function and nystagmus, electrophysiologic auditory-evoked potentials, central auditory function, and calibration of measurement equipment used for such purposes.
4. Habilitate and rehabilitate, including, but not limited to, hearing aid evaluation, prescription, preparation, fitting and dispensing, assistive listening device selection and orientation, auditory training, aural habilitation, aural rehabilitation, speech conservation, and speechreading.
5. Fabricate earmolds.
6. Evaluate tinnitus.
7. Include speech and language screening, limited to a pass/fail determination for identifying individuals with disorders of communication.

GEORGIA

(15) "The practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures of identification of hearing loss, measurement, testing, evaluation, case management, prediction, prevention, consultation, counseling, instruction, and research related to hearing, hearing disorders, and auditory and vestibular function and dysfunction; intervention as related to such principles, methods, and procedures; interpretation of the results of such principles, methods, and procedures; the evaluation, recommendations, fitting, and dispensing of hearing aids, frequency modulation technologies, and other assistive devices designed to ameliorate the effects of a hearing disorder; the programming of cochlear implants and other implantable devices; and the planning, directing, conducting, and participating in hearing conservation programs and programs of habilitation, rehabilitation, and intervention for disorders of hearing, auditory function and processing, and vestibular function, including but not limited to auditory training, speechreading, and vestibular rehabilitation, which vestibular function and rehabilitation the audiologist is qualified to perform by virtue of education, training, and experience.

HAWAII

The practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures of measurement, prediction, evaluation, testing, counseling, consultation, and instruction related to the development and disorders of hearing and related language and speech for the purpose of modifying hearing function and related language and speech disorders.

IDAHO

"Practice of audiology" means to apply the principles, methods and procedures of measurement, evaluation, testing, counseling, consultation and instruction that relate to the development and disorders of hearing, vestibular functions and related language and speech disorders to prevent,

modify or rehabilitate the disorders or to assist individuals in auditory and related skills for communication, and may include intraoperative monitoring and the fitting, adjustment, programming, selling and dispensing of hearing aids and assistive devices.

ILLINOIS

g) "The practice of audiology" is the application of nonsurgical methods and procedures for the screening, identification, measurement, monitoring, testing, appraisal, prediction, interpretation, habilitation, rehabilitation, or instruction related to audiologic or **vestibular disorders**, including hearing and disorders of hearing. These procedures are for the purpose of counseling, consulting and rendering or offering to render services or for participating in the planning, directing or conducting of programs that are designed to modify communicative disorders involving speech, language, auditory, or vestibular function related to hearing loss. The practice of audiology may include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

- 1) any task, procedure, act, or practice that is necessary for the **evaluation and management of audiologic, hearing, or vestibular function, including, but not limited to, neurophysiologic intraoperative monitoring of the seventh or eighth cranial nerve function**;
 - (2) training in the use of amplification devices;
 - (3) the evaluation, fitting, dispensing, or servicing of hearing instruments and auditory prosthetic devices, such as cochlear implants, auditory osseointegrated devices, and brainstem implants;
 - (4) **cerumen removal**;
 - (5) performing basic speech and language screening tests and procedures consistent with audiology training; and
 - (6) performing basic health screenings in accordance with Section 8.3 of this Act.

INDIANA

(f) As used in this article, "audiology" means the application of nonmedical and non-surgical principles, methods, and procedures of prevention, evaluation, habilitation, rehabilitation, instruction, and research of disorders of hearing, auditory function, and **vestibular** function.

IOWA

"Audiologist" means a person who engages in the application of principles, methods and procedures for measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction, habilitation, rehabilitation, or remediation related to hearing and disorders of hearing and associated communication disorders for the purpose of nonmedically evaluating, identifying, preventing, ameliorating, modifying, or remediating such disorders and conditions in individuals or groups of individuals, including the determination and use of appropriate amplification.

KANSAS

"Audiology" means the application of principles, methods and procedures related to hearing and the disorders of hearing and to related language and speech disorders. Disorders include any and all conditions, whether of organic or nonorganic origin, peripheral or central, that impede the normal process of human communication including, but not limited to, disorders of auditory sensitivity, acuity, function or processing. Audiology does not mean diagnosis or treatment of medical conditions as defined by K.S.A. 65-2869, and amendments thereto.

KENTUCKY

(6) "The practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures of measurement, testing, appraisal, prediction, consultation, counseling, and instruction related to hearing and disorders of hearing for the purpose of modifying communicative disorders involving speech, language, auditory behavior, or other aberrant behavior related to hearing loss; planning, directing, conducting, or participating in identification and hearing conservation programs; and habilitative and rehabilitative programs, including hearing aid recommendations and evaluation, auditory training, or speech reading;

LOUISIANA

(7)(a) "Practice of audiology" means providing, or offering to provide, to individuals or groups of individuals who have, or are suspected of having, disorders of the auditory system, any service in audiology, including prevention, identification, evaluation, interpretation, counseling, consultation, habilitation, rehabilitation, instruction, supervision, and research. The practice of audiology shall also include audiology services for disorders of the vestibular system upon referral of a physician. An audiologist may engage in any task, procedure, act, or practice that is necessary:

- (i) For the evaluation of hearing and the monitoring of neural functioning.
- (ii) For training in the use of amplification, including hearing aids and assistive listening devices.
- (iii) For the making of earmolds.
- (iv) For the fitting, dispensing, and selling of hearing aids.

MAINE

"Audiology" means the application of theories, principles and procedures related to hearing and balance disorders for the purposes of assessment and treatment.

MARYLAND

Practice audiology. --

- (1) "Practice audiology" means to apply the principles, methods, and procedures of measurement, prediction, evaluation, testing, counseling, consultation, and instruction that relate to the development and disorders of hearing, vestibular functions, and related language and speech disorders, to prevent or modify the disorders or assist individuals in hearing and auditory and related skills for communication.
- (2) "Practice audiology" includes the fitting or selling of hearing aids.

MASSACHUSETTS

Audiology. The application of principles, methods, and procedures in diagnostics and nonmedical treatment of hearing and balance disorders, and consultation and remediation of such disorders. Services may include testing of hearing and balance; recommendation and dispensing of amplification including hearing aids and assistive listening devices; recommendation and management of implantable hearing-related devices; implementation and facilitation of aural habilitation and rehabilitation programs; recommendation and implementation of environmental modifications and educational accommodations; and facilitation of hearing conservation programs.

MICHIGAN

333.16801 Definitions; scope of practice; limitation.

Sec. 16801. (1) As used in this part: (a) "Audiologist" means an individual licensed under this article to engage in the practice of audiology.

(b) "Practice of audiology" means the nonmedical and nonsurgical application of principles, methods, and procedures related to disorders of hearing, including all of the following: (i) Facilitating the conservation of auditory system function. (ii) Developing and implementing hearing conservation programs. (iii) Preventing, identifying, and assessing hearing disorders of the peripheral and central auditory system. (iv) Selecting, fitting, and dispensing of amplification systems, including hearing aids and related devices, and providing training for their use. (v) Providing auditory training, consulting, education, and speech reading to individuals with hearing disorders. (vi) Administering and interpreting tests of vestibular function and tinnitus in compliance with section 16809 and in adherence to the mandate of subsection (2). (vii) Routine cerumen removal from the cartilaginous portion of the external ear in otherwise healthy ears except that if the audiologist, while engaged in routine cerumen removal, discovers any trauma, including, but not limited to, continuous uncontrolled bleeding, lacerations, or other traumatic injuries, he or she shall, as soon as practically possible, refer the patient to a person licensed in the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine and surgery. (viii) Speech and language

screening limited to a pass-fail determination for the purpose of identification of individuals with disorders of communication.

(2) Practice of audiology does not include the practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine and surgery or medical diagnosis or treatment. (3) In addition to the definitions in this part, article 1 contains general definitions and principles of construction applicable to all articles in this code and part 161 contains definitions applicable to this part.

MINNESOTA

The "practice of audiology" means:

(1) identification, assessment, and interpretation, diagnosis, rehabilitation, and prevention of hearing disorders;

(2) conservation of the auditory system function; development and implementation of hearing conservation programs;

(3) measurement, assessment, and interpretation of auditory and vestibular function;

(4) selecting, fitting, and dispensing of assistive listening devices, alerting and amplification devices, and systems for personal and public use, including hearing aids and devices, and providing training in their use;

(5) aural habilitation and rehabilitation and related counseling for individuals who are deaf, deafblind, and hard-of-hearing and their families;

(6) screening of speech, language, voice, or fluency for the purposes of audiologic evaluation or identification of possible communication disorders; or

(7) supervision of the functions in clauses (1) to (6).

The practice of audiology does not include the practice of medicine and surgery, or osteopathic medicine and surgery, or medical diagnosis that is commonly performed by a physician.

MISSISSIPPI

(g) "Audiology" means the application of principles, methods and procedures of measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction, habilitation or rehabilitation related to disorders of hearing and balance for the purpose of evaluating, identifying, preventing, ameliorating or modifying such disorders and conditions in individuals and/or groups of individuals; and for the purpose of this subsection the words "habilitation" and "rehabilitation" include, but are not limited to, hearing aid dispensing and evaluation, and auditory training, and speech reading.

MISSOURI

"Practice of audiology":

- (a) The application of accepted audiologic principles, methods and procedures for the measurement, testing, interpretation, appraisal and prediction related to disorders of the auditory system, **balance system or related structures and systems;**
- (b) Provides consultation, counseling to the patient, client, student, their family or interested parties;
- (c) Provides academic, social and medical referrals when appropriate;
- (d) Provides for establishing goals, implementing strategies, methods and techniques, for habilitation, rehabilitation or aural rehabilitation, related to disorders of the auditory system, **balance system or related structures and systems;**
- (e) Provides for involvement in related research, teaching or public education;
- (f) Provides for rendering of services or participates in the planning, directing or conducting of programs which are designed to modify audition, communicative, balance or cognitive disorder, which may involve speech and language or education issues;
- (g) Provides and interprets behavioral and neurophysiologic measurements of **auditory balance, cognitive processing and related functions, including intraoperative monitoring;**
- (h) Provides involvement in any tasks, procedures, acts or practices that are necessary for evaluation of audition, hearing, training in the use of amplification or assistive listening devices;
- (i) Provides selection, assessment, fitting, programming, and dispensing of hearing instruments, assistive listening devices, and other amplification systems;
- (j) Provides for taking impressions of the ear, making custom ear molds, ear plugs, swim molds and industrial noise protectors;
- (k) Provides assessment of external ear and **cerumen management;**
- (l) Provides advising, fitting, mapping assessment of implantable devices such as cochlear or auditory brain stem devices;
- (m) Provides information in noise control and hearing conservation including education, equipment selection, equipment calibration, site evaluation and employee evaluation;
- (n) Provides performing basic speech-language screening test;
- (o) Provides involvement in social aspects of communication, including challenging behavior and ineffective social skills, lack of communication opportunities;

- (p) Provides support and training of family members and other communication partners for the individual with auditory balance, cognitive and communication disorders;
- (q) Provides aural rehabilitation and related services to individuals with hearing loss and their families;
- (r) Evaluates, collaborates and manages audition problems in the assessment of the central auditory processing disorders and providing intervention for individuals with central auditory processing disorders;
- (s) Develops and manages academic and clinical problems in communication sciences and disorders;
- (t) Conducts, disseminates and applies research in communication sciences and disorders;

MONTANA

(1) The scope of practice of audiology includes but is not limited to:

(a) identification, assessment, management, and interpretation of auditory/vestibular disorders;

(b) otoscopic examination and external ear canal management for removal of cerumen in order to:

- (i) evaluate auditory/vestibular disorders;
- (ii) make ear impressions;
- (iii) fit hearing protection or prosthetic devices; and
- (iv) monitor the continuous use of hearing aids;
- (c) administration and interpretation of behavioral, electroacoustic, or electrophysiologic methods used to assess auditory/vestibular disorders;
- (d) evaluation and management of children and adults with auditory processing disorders;
- (e) supervising and conducting newborn screening programs;
- (f) measurement and interpretation of sensory and motor evoked potentials, electromyography, and other electrodiagnostic tests for purposes of neurophysiologic intraoperative monitoring;
- (g) provision of hearing care by selecting, evaluating, fitting, facilitating, adjustment to, and dispensing prosthetic devices for hearing loss, including:
 - (i) hearing aids;
 - (ii) sensory aids;
 - (iii) hearing assistive devices;
 - (iv) alerting and telecommunication systems; and
 - (v) captioning devices;
- (h) assessment of candidacy of persons with hearing loss for cochlear implants and provision of fitting, and audiological rehabilitation to optimize device use;
 - (i) provision of audiological rehabilitation including:
 - (i) speech reading;
 - (ii) communication management;
 - (iii) language development;
 - (iv) auditory skill development; and
 - (v) counseling for psychosocial adjustment to hearing loss for persons with hearing loss, their families, and care givers;

(j) consultation to educators as members of interdisciplinary teams about communication management, educational implications, classroom acoustics, and large-area amplification systems for children with hearing loss;

(k) prevention of hearing loss and conservation of hearing function by designing, implementation, and coordinating occupational, school, and community hearing conservation and identification programs;

(l) consultation and provision of rehabilitation of persons with balance disorders using habituation, exercise therapy, and balance retraining;

(m) designing and conducting basic and applied audiologic research, and disseminating research findings to other professionals and to the public, to:

(i) increase the knowledge base;

(ii) develop new methods and programs; and

(iii) determine the efficacy of assessment and treatment paradigms;

(n) education and administration in audiology graduate and professional education programs;

(o) measurement of functional outcomes, consumer satisfaction, effectiveness, efficiency, and cost-benefit of practices and programs to maintain and improve the quality of audiological services;

(p) administration and supervision of professional and technical personnel who provide support functions to the practice of audiology;

(q) screening of speech-language, use of sign language, and other factors affecting communication function for the purposes of an audiological evaluation or initial identification of individuals at risk for other communication disorders;

(r) consultation about accessibility for persons with hearing loss in public and private buildings, programs, and services;

(s) *assessment and nonmedical management of tinnitus using:*

(i) biofeedback;

(ii) masking;

(iii) habituation;

(iv) hearing aids;

(v) education; and

(vi) counseling;

(t) consultation to individuals, public and private agencies, and governmental bodies, or as an expert witness regarding legal interpretations of audiology findings, effects of auditory/vestibular disorders, and relevant noise related considerations;

(u) case management and service as a liaison for consumers, families, and agencies in order to monitor audiologic status and management and to make recommendations about educational and vocational programming; and

(v) consultation to industry on the development of products and instrumentation related to the management of auditory/vestibular function.

History: [37-1-131](#), [37-15-202](#), MCA; [IMP](#), [37-15-102](#), MCA; [NEW](#), 2006 MAR p. 2413, Eff. 10/6/06.

NEBRASKA

38-507 Practice of audiology, defined.

Practice of audiology means the application of evidence-based practice in clinical decision making for the **prevention, assessment, habilitation, rehabilitation, and maintenance of persons with hearing, auditory function, and vestibular function** impairments and related impairments, including (1) **cerumen**

removal from the cartilaginous outer one-third portion of the external auditory canal when the presence of cerumen may affect the accuracy of hearing evaluations or impressions of the ear canal for amplification devices and (2) evaluation, selection, fitting, and dispensing of hearing instruments, external processors of implantable hearing instruments, and assistive technology devices as part of a comprehensive audiological rehabilitation program. Practice of audiology does not include the practice of medical diagnosis, medical treatment, or surgery. Source: Laws 2007, LB247, § 67; Laws 2007, LB463, § 192; Laws 2009, LB195, § 8. Effective Date: August 30, 2009.

NEVADA

[NV Rev Stat § 637B.050 \(2017\)](#)

"Practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods and procedures relating to hearing and **balance**, hearing disorders and related speech and language disorders and includes, without limitation:

1. The conservation of auditory system functions;
2. Screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting, preventing and rehabilitating auditory and balance system disorders;
3. The selection, fitting, programming and dispensing of hearing aids, the programming of cochlear implants and other technology which assists persons with hearing loss and training persons to use such technology;
4. Providing vestibular and auditory rehabilitation, **cerumen management** and associated counseling services;
5. Conducting research on hearing and hearing disorders for the purpose of modifying disorders in communication involving speech, language and hearing;
6. Providing referral services for medical diagnosis and treatment; and
7. At the request of a physician, participating in the diagnosis of a person.

NORTH CAROLINA

"The practice of audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures of measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction, habilitation, or rehabilitation related to **hearing and vestibular disorders of hearing for the purpose of identifying, preventing, ameliorating, or modifying such disorders and conditions** in individuals or groups of individuals. For the purpose of this subdivision, the words "habilitation" and "rehabilitation" shall include auditory training, speech reading, aural rehabilitation, hearing aid use evaluation and recommendations, and fabrication of earmolds and similar accessories for clinical testing purposes.

NORTH DAKOTA

"Audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures of measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction, habilitation, or rehabilitation related to hearing and disorders of hearing **including vestibular testing**, for the purpose of evaluating, identifying, preventing, ameliorating, or modifying such disorders and conditions in individuals or groups of individuals.

OHIO

G) "Practice of audiology" means the planning, directing, supervising, and conducting of habilitative or rehabilitative counseling programs for individuals or groups of individuals who have or are suspected of having disorders of hearing; any service in audiology, including prevention, identification, evaluation, consultation, habilitation or rehabilitation, instruction, and research; participating in hearing conservation, hearing aid and assistive listening device evaluation, selection, preparation, dispensing, and orientation; fabricating ear molds; providing auditory training and speech reading; and **administering tests of vestibular function and tests for tinnitus in accordance with section 4753.14 of the Revised Code**. The "practice of audiology" includes speech and language screening limited to a pass-or-fail determination, for the purpose of identification of individuals with disorders of communication. The practice of audiology does not include the practice of medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery, or the performance of a task in the normal practice of medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery by a person to whom the task is delegated by a licensed physician.

OKLAHOMA

"Practice of audiology" means the rendering, or offering to render, to any person or the public, the evaluation, examination, counseling or rehabilitation of or for persons who have or are suspected of having a hearing disorder, and/or representing oneself to be an audiologist; and 10. "Hearing screening" means one or more procedures used to identify individuals who may have a hearing loss. Measurements of auditory thresholds are not included in hearing screening programs.

OREGON

(4) "Practice audiology" means:

(a) To apply the principles, methods and procedures of measurement, prediction, evaluation, testing, counseling, consultation and instruction that relate to the development and disorders of hearing, **vestibular functions** and related language and speech disorders to prevent or modify the disorders or to assist individuals in auditory and related skills for communication.

(b) To fit or sell hearing aids.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

I."Audiologist" means any person who renders or offers to render to the public any service involving the application of principles, methods, and procedures for the measurement of testing, identification,

appraisal, consultation, counseling, instruction, and research related to the development and disorders of hearing and vestibular function for the purpose of diagnosing, designing, and implementing programs for the amelioration of such disorders and conditions.

II. "Audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures related to the development and disorders of human communication, which disorders shall include any and all conditions whether of organic or nonorganic origin, that impede the normal processes of human communication and balance including, but not limited to, disorders of hearing, vestibular function, and central auditory processing.

NEW JERSEY

13:44C-7.1 SCOPE OF PRACTICE—AUDIOLOGY

a) The practice of audiology includes the following functions related to hearing, its disorders and related communication impairments:

- 1) Providing screening, identification, assessment, diagnosis, treatment, intervention (that is, prevention, restoration, amelioration, compensation), consultation, counseling, and follow-up services for disorders of the peripheral, vestibular and central auditory systems, and other neural systems;
- 2) Supervision and conduct of newborn hearing screening programs;
- 3) Measurement and interpretation of sensory and motor evoked potentials, electronystagmography, and other electrodiagnostic tests for purposes of neurophysiologic intraoperative monitoring and cranial nerve assessment;
- 4) Provision of hearing care by selecting, evaluating, fitting, facilitating, dispensing and adjusting prosthetic devices for hearing loss (that is, FM assistive listening devices), except for the fitting and dispensing of hearing aids unless licensed by the Hearing Aid Dispensers Examining Committee;
- 5) Assessment of candidacy of persons with hearing loss for cochlear implants and provision of fitting, programming, and audiological rehabilitation to optimize device use;
- 6) Provision of audiological rehabilitation including speech-reading, communication management, language development, auditory skill development, and counseling for psychosocial adjustment to hearing loss for persons with hearing loss and their families and caregivers; case management and service as a liaison between the consumer, family, and agencies in order to monitor audiologic status and management and to make recommendations about educational and vocational programming;
- 7) Consultation with educators as members of interdisciplinary teams about communication management, educational implications of communication disorders, educational programming, classroom acoustics, and large-area amplification systems for children
- 8) Prevention of hearing loss and conservation of hearing function by designing, implementing and coordinating occupational, school, and community hearing conservation and identification programs;

9) Screening of speech-language, use of sign language, and other factors affecting communication function for the purposes of an audiological evaluation and/or initial identification of individuals with other communication disorders; and

10) Assessment and nonmedical **management of tinnitus** using biofeedback, masking, education, and counseling.

13:44C-7.1A SCOPE OF PRACTICE—CERUMEN MANAGEMENT

a) The purpose of this section is to set forth standards for the performance of cerumen management by a licensed audiologist. Cerumen management is within the scope of practice of an audiologist who meets the requirements of this section.

b) "Cerumen management," as used in this section, shall mean the removal of wax like secretions from the cartilaginous portion of the external ear in otherwise healthy ears.

c) A licensed audiologist may perform cerumen management only if he or she; 1) Completed initial education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:44C-3.2, 3.3 or 3.4, which included instruction in the topics required by (d) below; or

2) Has successfully completed a 12-hour seminar or workshop in cerumen management, which qualifies for American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA), American Academy of Audiology (AAA) or Academy of Doctors of Audiology (ADA) continuing education credit and which includes instruction in the topics required by (d) below.

d) Initial education or a course in cerumen management shall include: 1) Recognizing the presence of medical preexisting contraindications that warrant referral to a physician, such as:

i) A patient who has hearing in only one ear; ii) A perforated tympanic membrane; iii) Inflammation, tenderness, open wounds or traces of blood in the external ear canal; iv) Drainage from the external ear canal or middle ear; v) Ear surgery within the last six months; vi) A patient who has tympanostomy tubes; vii) Diabetes mellitus, HIV infection or bleeding disorders; viii) Actual or suspected foreign body in the ear; ix) Stenosis or bony exostosis of the ear canal; x) Cerumen impaction that totally occludes the ear canal; xi) Cerumen located beyond the isthmus; or xii) Inability to see the tympanic membrane;

2) Recognizing patient distress and appropriate action to take if complications are encountered;

3) Infection control practices, including: i) Universal health precautions; ii) Decontamination; iii) Cleaning, disinfection and sterilization of multiple use equipment; and iv) Universal precautions for prevention of the transmission of human immunodeficiency virus, hepatitis B virus and other blood borne pathogens; and

4) Methods for removal of cerumen, for example, cerumen loop, gentle water irrigation, suction and use of material for softening.

e) In addition to the education requirements of (c) above, a licensed audiologist shall complete the following prior to performing cerumen management: 1) Observe a minimum of 2 cerumen management procedures using a cerumen loop, 2 cerumen management procedures using gentle water irrigation and 2 cerumen management procedures using suction performed by either a licensed audiologist who has met the requirements of this section, an audiologist authorized to perform cerumen management in

another state or a physician; and 2) Successfully perform, under the supervision of a licensed audiologist who has met the requirements of this section, an audiologist authorized to perform cerumen management in another state or a physician, a minimum of 2 cerumen management procedures using a cerumen loop, 2 cerumen management procedures using gentle water irrigation and 2 cerumen management procedures using suction. f) A licensed audiologist shall perform cerumen management only in a healthcare facility licensed by the Department of Health and Senior Services or in his or her office. g) A licensed audiologist shall not perform cerumen management and shall refer a patient to a physician if any of the pre-existing contraindications listed in (d)1 above occur. h) A licensed audiologist shall not perform cerumen management on a patient who is six years old or younger. i) A licensed audiologist shall not perform, or shall cease performing, cerumen management if patient reports: 1) Tenderness during manipulation of the pinna or at any time during the cerumen removal procedure; or 2) Dizziness occurring during cerumen removal. j) A licensed audiologist shall refer a patient for immediate treatment from a physician if a complication arises during the performance of cerumen management. k) A licensed audiologist who performs cerumen management shall maintain a case history for every patient and informed consent signed by the patient as part of his or her records.

NEW MEXICO

The scope of practice for audiologists shall include:

A. the rendering or offering to render professional services, including **nonmedical diagnosis**, prevention, identification, evaluation, consultation, counseling, habilitation, rehabilitation and instruction on and prognostication of **individuals having or suspected of having disorders of hearing, balance or central auditory processing**;

B. identification and evaluation of auditory function through the performance and interpretation of appropriate behavioral or electrophysiological tests for this purpose;

C. making ear impressions for use with auditory trainers or for non-amplified devices such as swim molds or ear protectors;

D. **cerumen management**;

E. **evaluation and management of tinnitus**;

F. the scope of practice for hearing aid dispensers;

G. consultation regarding noise control or environmental noise evaluation;

H. hearing conservation;

I. calibration of equipment used in hearing testing and environmental evaluation;

J. fitting and management of auditory trainers, including their general service, adjustment and analysis of function, as well as instruction, orientation and counseling in the use and care of these instruments;

K. speech or language screening for the purposes of audiological evaluation or initial identification for referral of individuals with disorders of communication other than hearing;

L. supervision of students, clinical fellows and paraprofessionals; and

M. sponsorship of hearing aid dispenser trainees.

NEW YORK

§8203. Definition of practice of audiology

The practice of the profession of audiology shall mean the application of principles, methods and procedures of measurement, testing, evaluation, consultation, counselling, instruction and habilitation or rehabilitation related to hearing, its disorders, related communication impairments and **vestibular disorders** for the purpose **of non-medical diagnosis**, prevention, identification, amelioration or modification of such disorders and conditions in individuals and/or groups of individuals.

PENNSYLVANIA

"Practice of audiology." The application of principles, methods and procedures related to disorders of the auditory and vestibular systems. Areas of audiology practice include the following:

- (1) prevention of hearing loss by designing, implementing and coordinating industrial, school and community-based hearing conservation programs;
- (2) identification of dysfunction of hearing, balance and other auditory-related systems by developing and overseeing hearing and balance-related screening programs for persons of all ages, including newborn and school screening programs;
- (3) administration of speech or language screening or other measures for the purpose of initial identification and referral of persons with other communicative disorders;
- (4) **assessment and nonmedical diagnosis and treatment of hearing and vestibular disorders** through the administration of behavioral, psychoacoustic, electrophysiologic tests of the peripheral and central auditory and vestibular systems using standardized test procedures, including, but not limited to, audiometry, tympanometry, acoustic reflex measures, otoacoustic emissions, auditory evoked potentials, video and electronystagmography and tests of central auditory function using calibrated instrumentation leading to the diagnosis of auditory and vestibular dysfunction abnormality;
- (5) assessment of candidacy of persons with hearing loss for cochlear implants;
- (6) nonmedical treatment for persons with impairment of auditory function utilizing amplification and other assistive devices;
- (7) selection, fitting, evaluation and dispensing of hearing aids and other amplification systems;
- (8) fitting and mapping of cochlear implant devices and audiologic rehabilitation to optimize device use;

(9) fitting of middle ear implantable hearing aids, fully implantable hearing aids and bone-anchored hearing aids;

(10) conducting otoscopic examinations;

(11) nonmedical treatment of persons with tinnitus using techniques including biofeedback, masking, hearing aids, education and counseling;

(12) counseling on the psychosocial aspects of hearing loss and the use of amplification systems;

(13) administration of electrophysiologic measures of neural function, including, but not limited to, sensory and motor-evoked potentials, preoperative and postoperative evaluation of neural function, neurophysiologic intraoperative monitoring of the central nervous system, spinal cord and cranial nerve function, provided that an audiologist shall not perform neurophysiologic intraoperative monitoring except upon delegation from and under the overall direction of a physician, and the audiologist shall be certified by the board under section 8.1; and

(14) referral of persons with auditory and vestibular dysfunction abnormalities to an appropriate physician for medical evaluation when indicated based upon the interpretation of the audiologic and vestibular test results.

RHODE ISLAND

"Audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures related to hearing and the disorders of the hearing and balance systems, to related language and speech disorders, and to aberrant behavior related to hearing loss. A hearing disorder in an individual is defined as altered sensitivity, acuity, function, processing, and/or damage to the integrity of the physiological auditory/vestibular system

SOUTH CAROLINA

"Audiology" or "audiology service" means screening, identifying, assessing, diagnosing, habilitating, and rehabilitating individuals with peripheral and central auditory and vestibular disorders; preventing hearing loss; researching normal and disordered auditory and vestibular functions; administering and interpreting behavioral and physiological measures of the peripheral and central auditory and vestibular systems; selecting, fitting, programming, and dispensing all types of amplification and assistive listening devices including hearing aids, and providing training in their use; providing aural habilitation, rehabilitation, and counseling to hearing impaired individuals and their families; designing, implementing, and coordinating industrial and community hearing conservation programs; training and supervising individuals not licensed in accordance with this chapter who perform air conduction threshold testing in the industrial setting; designing and coordinating infant hearing screening and supervising individuals not licensed in accordance with this chapter who perform infant hearing screenings; performing speech or language screening, limited to a pass-fail determination; screening of other skills for the purpose of audiological evaluation; and identifying individuals with other communication disorders.

SOUTH DAKOTA

36-24-1.6. Scope of audiology. The scope of practice of audiology includes:

- (1) Activities that identify, assess, **diagnose**, manage, and interpret test results related to disorders of **human hearing, balance, and other neural systems**;
- (2) Otoscopic examination and external ear canal management for **removal of cerumen** in order to evaluate hearing or balance, make ear impressions, fit hearing protection or prosthetic devices, and monitor the continuous use of hearing aids;
- (3) The conduct and interpretation of behavioral, electroacoustic, or electrophysiologic methods used to assess hearing, balance, and neural system function;
- (4) Evaluation and management of children and adults with central auditory processing disorders;
- (5) Supervision and conduct of newborn hearing screening programs;
- (6) Measurement and interpretation of sensory and motor evoked potentials, electromyography, and other electrodiagnostic tests for purposes of neurophysiologic intraoperative monitoring and cranial nerve assessment;
- (7) Provision of hearing care by selecting, evaluating, fitting, facilitating adjustment to, and dispensing prosthetic devices for hearing loss, including hearing aids, sensory aids, hearing assistive devices, alerting and telecommunication systems, and captioning devices;
- (8) Assessment of the candidacy of persons with hearing loss for cochlear implants and provision of fitting, programming, and audiological rehabilitation to optimize device use;
- (9) Provision of audiological rehabilitation including speech reading, communication management, language development, auditory skill development, and counseling for psychosocial adjustment to hearing loss for persons with hearing loss and their families or caregivers;
- (10) Consultation to educators as members of interdisciplinary teams about communication management, educational implications of hearing loss, educational programming, classroom acoustics, and large-area amplification systems for children with hearing loss;
- (11) Prevention of hearing loss and conservation of hearing function by designing, implementing, and coordinating occupational, school, and community hearing conservation and identification programs;
- (12) **Consultation and provision of rehabilitation to persons with balance disorders using habituation, exercise therapy, and balance retraining**;
- (13) Design and conduct of basic and applied audiological research to increase the knowledge base, to develop new methods and programs, and to determine the efficacy of assessment and treatment paradigms, and the dissemination of research findings to other professionals and to the public;
- (14) Education and administration in audiology graduate and professional education programs;
- (15) Measurement of functional outcomes, consumer satisfaction, effectiveness, efficiency, and cost-benefit of practices and programs to maintain and improve the quality of audiological services;
- (16) Administration and supervision of professional and technical personnel who provide support functions to the practice of audiology;
- (17) Screening of speech-language, use of sign language, and other factors affecting communication function for the purposes of an audiological evaluation or initial identification of individuals with other communication disorders;

(18) Consultation about accessibility for persons with hearing loss in public and private buildings, programs, and services;

(19) Assessment and nonmedical management of tinnitus using biofeedback, masking, hearing aids, education, and counseling;

(20) Consultation to individuals, public and private agencies, and governmental bodies, or as an expert witness regarding legal interpretations of audiology findings, effects of hearing loss and balance system disorders, and relevant noise-related considerations;

(21) Case management and service as a liaison for consumers, families, and agencies in order to monitor audiologic status and management and to make recommendations about educational and vocational programming;

(22) Consultation to industry on the development of products and instrumentation related to the measurement and management of auditory or balance function; and

(23) Participation in the development of professional and technical standards.

Source: SL 1997, ch 221, § 7.

TENNESSEE

Practice of audiology means the non-medical application of principles, methods, and procedures for the assessment of the auditory and vestibular systems, including the interpretation of behavioral and physiologic measures, and the design and implementation of programs of hearing conservation and preservation, and programs of habilitation and rehabilitation for auditory and vestibular disorders including the assessment, selection, fitting and sale of amplification systems or other assistive devices and technologies.

TEXAS

Sec 401.403. Practice by Audiologists

- (a) An audiologist may:
 - (1) engage in any act necessary to:
 - (A) evaluate hearing;
 - (B) train in the use of amplification, including hearing instruments;
 - (C) make earmolds for hearing instruments;
 - (D) fit, dispense, and sell hearing instruments; or
 - (E) manage cerumen;
 - (2) participate in consultation regarding noise control and hearing conservation;
 - (3) provide evaluations of environment or equipment, including calibration of equipment used in testing auditory functioning and hearing conservation; and

- (4) perform basic speech and language screening tests and procedures consistent with the audiologist's training.

UTAH

(3) "Audiologist" means a person who practices audiology or who holds himself out to the public directly or indirectly by any means, act, title, identification, performance, method, or procedure as one who nonmedically examines, measures, tests, interprets, evaluates, assesses, **diagnoses**, directs, instructs, treats, counsels, prescribes, and recommends for persons affected by or suspected of having disorders of or conditions of hearing loss, or assists persons in achieving the reception, communication, and perception of sound and determines the range, nature, and degree of hearing function related to communication needs, or provides audiology services and uses audio electronic equipment and provides audiology services and consultation regarding noise control and hearing conservation, **conducts tests and interpretation of vestibular function and nystagmus**, prepares ear impressions and provides ear molds, aids, accessories, prescriptions, and prostheses for hearing, evaluates sound environment and equipment, and calibrates instruments used in testing and supplementing auditory function. A person is deemed to be an audiologist if he directly or indirectly provides or offers to provide these services or functions set forth in Subsection (4) or any related function.

(4) "Audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures, and measuring, testing, examining, interpreting, **diagnosing**, predicting, evaluating, prescribing, consulting, treating, instructing, and researching, which is related to **hearing, vestibular function**, and the disorders of hearing, to related language and speech disorders and to aberrant behavior related to hearing loss or vestibular function, for the purpose of preventing and modifying disorders related to hearing loss or vestibular function, and planning, directing, managing, conducting, and participating in hearing conservation, evoked potentials evaluation, **nonmedical tinnitus evaluation or treatment**, noise control, habilitation, and rehabilitation programs, including hearing aid evaluation, assistive listening device evaluation, prescription, preparation, and dispensing, and auditory training and lip reading.

VERMONT

(2) "Audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures related to hearing and the disorders of hearing, and to related language and speech disorders, which includes all conditions that impede the normal process of human communication, including disorders of auditory sensitivity, acuity, function, or processing.

(7) "Practice of audiology" includes the following services, which may be provided to persons of all ages:

(A) facilitating the conservation of auditory system function, and developing and implementing environmental and occupational hearing conservation programs;

(B) screening, identifying, assessing, and interpreting, **diagnosing**, preventing, and rehabilitating peripheral and central auditory system dysfunctions;

(C) providing and interpreting behavioral and electro-physiological measurements of auditory, **vestibular**, and facial nerve functions;

(D) selecting, fitting, and dispensing of hearing aids, amplification, assistive listening and alerting devices, implantable devices, and other systems, and providing training in their use;

(E) dispensing hearing aids, including conducting and interpreting hearing tests for the purpose of selecting suitable hearing aids;

(F) making ear molds or impressions;

(G) providing instruction to patients on the care and use of hearing aids, auditory system functions, and hearing conservation;

(H) all acts pertaining to selling, renting, leasing, pricing, delivering, and giving warranties for hearing aids;

(I) providing aural rehabilitation and related counseling services to individuals who are hard of hearing and their families;

(J) screening of speech-language and other factors affecting communication function for the purposes of an audiologic evaluation, or initial identification of individuals with other communication disorders; and

(K) **management of cerumen.**

(8) "Practice of dispensing hearing aids" includes the following services, which may only be provided to persons 18 years of age or older:

(A) the measurement of the sensitivity of human hearing by means of appropriate behavioral testing for the sole purpose of fitting air-conduction hearing aids;

(B) the otoscopic observation of the outer ear in connection with the measurement of hearing and the fitting of hearing aids and for the purpose of referral to other professionals;

(C) the production of ear impressions for earmolds for the purpose of selecting and fitting hearing aids;

(D) the analysis of hearing aid function by means of the appropriate testing equipment;

(E) the selection and fitting of hearing aids with appropriate instruction, orientation, counseling, and management regarding the use and maintenance of these devices and other accessories; and

(F) the modification and general servicing of hearing aids.

(9) "Secretary" means the Secretary of State. (Added 1989, No. 60, § 1; amended 1989, No. 250 (Adj. Sess.), § 4(b), (d); 1997, No. 40, § 49(a); 2013, No. 96 (Adj. Sess.), § 178; 2015, No. 38, § 34, eff. Sept. 1, 2015.)

WASHINGTON

"Audiology" means the application of principles, methods, and procedures related to hearing and the disorders of hearing and to related language and speech disorders, whether of organic or nonorganic origin, peripheral or central, that impede the normal process of human communication including, but not limited to, disorders of auditory sensitivity, acuity, function, processing, or **vestibular function**, the application of aural habilitation, rehabilitation, and appropriate devices including fitting and dispensing of hearing instruments, and **cerumen management** to treat such disorders.

WEST VIRGINIA

Scope of practice for audiology.

(a) The scope of practice for audiology includes:

(1) Facilitating the conservation of Auditory system function, developing and implementing environmental and occupational hearing conservation programs;

(2) Screening, identifying, assessing and interpreting, preventing and rehabilitating peripheral and central Auditory system disorders;

(3) Providing and interpreting behavioral and electro- physiological measurements of Auditory and **vestibular functions**;

(4) Selecting, fitting, programming and dispensing of amplification, assistive listening and alerting devices and programming and other systems (e.g., implantative devices) and providing training in their use;

(5) Providing audiologic and aural rehabilitation and related counseling services to individuals with hearing impairments and their families;

(6) **Providing vestibular rehabilitation**;

(7) **Cerumen removal**; and

(8) Screening of speech-language and other factors affecting communication disorders: *Provided*, That judgments and descriptive statements about the results of the screenings are limited to pass/fail determinations.

(b) A person licensed under this article as an audiologist is not required to obtain a license under the provisions of article twenty-six of this chapter.

WISCONSIN

2) "Audiology" means all of the following: (a) Applying principles, methods or procedures of prevention, identification, evaluation, consultation, intervention, instruction or research related to hearing, **vestibular function**, or any abnormal condition related to **tinnitus**, auditory sensitivity, acuity, function or processing, speech, language or other aberrant behavior resulting from hearing loss. (b) Engaging in the practice of fitting and dealing in hearing aids. (3) "

WYOMING

"Audiology" means the application of principles, methods and procedures of measurement, testing, evaluation, prediction, consultation, counseling, instruction, habilitation or rehabilitation related to hearing and disorders of hearing for the purpose of evaluating, identifying, preventing, ameliorating or modifying such disorders and conditions in individuals or groups of individuals. For the purposes of this subsection the words "habilitation" and "rehabilitation" include, but are not limited to hearing aid evaluation and recommendation;