



## Hearing Aid Assessments and Re-assessments during quarter ending 31 March 2007

**31 August 2007**

**Theme:**

**Hearing aid assessments and  
re-assessments in Northern  
Ireland**

**Issued by**

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This statistical bulletin presents information on hearing aid assessments and re-assessments by audiologists in Northern Ireland, for the quarter ending 31 March 2007. Information has been derived from the quarterly collection AUD1, and monitors information on both adults and children fitted and assessed for hearing aids during the quarter, complaints received, and cost of aids issued. In addition, the return monitors' complete and incomplete waits for assessment during the quarter, and the length of time patients were waiting or had waited following referral to Audiologist (specified time bands).

### Key Findings <sup>1</sup>

#### Patients Fitted:

- 3,245 patients were fitted with a digital hearing aid or analogue hearing aid during the quarter ending 31 March 2007, 3,089 digital hearing aids and 156 analogue hearing aids.
- Of the 3,245 patients fitted during the quarter, over two thirds (2,211) were new patients.
- The Eastern HSS Board had the highest number of patients fitted with hearing aids during the quarter (1,674), 579 in the Southern Board, 578 in the Western Board, and 414 in the Northern Board.
- During the quarter, 1,623 existing clients were issued with digital hearing aid replacements or fixes (*These are not included in the information above for patients fitted, as patients may have already been fitted during the quarter*).

#### Patients Assessed:

- 2,266 new and 1,132 existing patients were assessed for hearing aids during the quarter ending 31 March 2007. Of these, 53 adults were assessed as unsuitable for a hearing aid.

<sup>1</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006.

### **Cost of Hearing Aids:**

- During the quarter ending 31 March 2007, 4,056 aids were issued across the four Boards at a cost of £340,600.

### **Complaints Received:**

- No complaints were reported by Audiology Departments in Northern Ireland during quarter ending 31 March 2007.

### **Completed Waiting Times:**

- 3,343 patients had their hearing aid assessment / re-assessment<sup>2</sup> completed during the quarter ending 31 March 2007.
- Of these 3,343 patients, 75% had been waiting less than 3 months from referral to Audiology Department until the aid was fitted, 22% waited 3 to 6 months, and 3% waited 6 to 12 months.

### **Incomplete Waiting Times:**

- At 31 March 2007, 1,293 patients were waiting for their hearing aid assessment / re-assessment<sup>3</sup> to be completed.
- The highest proportion (69%) of these patients were waiting less than 3 months, 18% for 3 to 6 months, 7% for 6 to 12 months, and 6% for 12 months or more.

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<sup>1</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006.

<sup>2</sup> Completed waiting times for hearing aid assessment / re-assessments are counted from the date the referral is received by the Audiology Department until the aid is fitted.

<sup>3</sup> Incomplete waiting times refer to patients who have been referred to the Audiology Department who have not yet been fitted with their aid. Waiting times in this case are counted from the date referral is received until the end of the quarter.

# Note to Editors

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1. The enclosed figures for hearing aid assessments and re-assessments are the first in a regular series. Data is collected on the AUD1 quarterly return, which provides the DHSSPS with aggregate data on children and adults assessed and re-assessed for hearing aids in Northern Ireland.
2. The information presented for the quarter ending 31 March 2007, is based on data reported by 12 audiologists, working in the following Hospital / Community Trusts; Royal Group of Hospitals, Belfast City Hospital, Mater Hospital, Ulster Community & Hospital, Laganvalley Hospital, Downe Hospital, Causeway / United Hospitals, Daisy Hill Hospital, Craigavon Area Hospital, Armagh & Dungannon HSS Trust, Altnagelvin Hospital, and Sperrin Lakeland HSS Trust.
3. The information in this bulletin is presented according to HSS Boards, and is based on the location of the Hospitals / Trusts, and not where the client lives, i.e. a client from Northern Board may be seen in the Royal but their details will be included in the Eastern HSS Board.
4. Symbols used:

| <b>Symbol</b> | <b>Meaning</b>       |
|---------------|----------------------|
| -             | Figure is suppressed |
| .             | Not applicable       |

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**Table A.1: Patients Fitted with Hearing Aids during Quarter, by Type of Aid and Patient Type<sup>1,2</sup>**

|  | numbers      |              |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              | percentage                  |
|--|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|  | EHSSB        |              | NHSSB      |            | SHSSB      |            | WHSSB      |            | Northern Ireland |              | % Change since last quarter |
|  | Mar-07       | Dec-06       | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07           | Dec-06       |                             |
| <b>Total Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid During the Quarter</b> |              |              |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>All Patients Fitted</b>   | <b>1,674</b> | <b>1,589</b> | <b>414</b> | <b>453</b> | <b>579</b> | <b>701</b> | <b>578</b> | <b>625</b> | <b>3,245</b>     | <b>3,368</b> | <b>-4%</b>                  |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 1,588        | 1,468        | 407        | 446        | 556        | 660        | 538        | 559        | 3,089            | 3,133        | -1%                         |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 86           | 121          | 7          | 7          | 23         | 41         | 40         | 66         | 156              | 235          | -34%                        |
| <b>Child Patients Fitted</b>                                       | <b>19</b>    | <b>20</b>    | <b>3</b>   | <b>6</b>   | <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b>  | <b>5</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>39</b>        | <b>41</b>    | <b>-5%</b>                  |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 19           | 17           | 2          | 6          | 10         | 13         | 5          | 2          | 36               | 38           | -5%                         |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 0            | 3            | 1          | 0          | 2          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 3                | 3            | 0%                          |
| <b>Adult Patients Fitted</b>                                       | <b>1,655</b> | <b>1,569</b> | <b>411</b> | <b>447</b> | <b>567</b> | <b>688</b> | <b>573</b> | <b>623</b> | <b>3,206</b>     | <b>3,327</b> | <b>-4%</b>                  |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 1,569        | 1,451        | 405        | 440        | 546        | 647        | 533        | 557        | 3,053            | 3,095        | -1%                         |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 86           | 118          | 6          | 7          | 21         | 41         | 40         | 66         | 153              | 232          | -34%                        |
| <b>New Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid</b>                      |              |              |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>New Patients Fitted</b>   | <b>1,174</b> | <b>983</b>   | <b>347</b> | <b>377</b> | <b>386</b> | <b>414</b> | <b>304</b> | <b>253</b> | <b>2,211</b>     | <b>2,027</b> | <b>9%</b>                   |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 1,156        | 979          | 347        | 377        | 386        | 414        | 303        | 252        | 2,192            | 2,022        | 8%                          |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 18           | 4            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 1          | 1          | 19               | 5            | 280%                        |
| <b>New Child Patients Fitted</b>                                   | <b>17</b>    | <b>9</b>     | <b>2</b>   | <b>6</b>   | <b>10</b>  | <b>10</b>  | <b>4</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>33</b>        | <b>27</b>    | <b>22%</b>                  |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 17           | 9            | 2          | 6          | 10         | 10         | 4          | 2          | 33               | 27           | 22%                         |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| <b>New Adult Patients Fitted</b>                                   | <b>1,157</b> | <b>974</b>   | <b>345</b> | <b>371</b> | <b>376</b> | <b>404</b> | <b>300</b> | <b>251</b> | <b>2,178</b>     | <b>2,000</b> | <b>9%</b>                   |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 1,139        | 970          | 345        | 371        | 376        | 404        | 299        | 250        | 2,159            | 1,995        | 8%                          |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 18           | 4            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 1          | 1          | 19               | 5            | 280%                        |
| <b>Existing Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid</b>                 |              |              |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>Existing Patients Fitted</b>                                    | <b>500</b>   | <b>606</b>   | <b>67</b>  | <b>76</b>  | <b>193</b> | <b>287</b> | <b>274</b> | <b>372</b> | <b>1,034</b>     | <b>1,341</b> | <b>-23%</b>                 |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 432          | 489          | 60         | 69         | 170        | 246        | 235        | 307        | 897              | 1,111        | -19%                        |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 68           | 117          | 7          | 7          | 23         | 41         | 39         | 65         | 137              | 230          | -40%                        |
| <b>Existing Child Patients Fitted</b>                              | <b>2</b>     | <b>11</b>    | <b>1</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b>   | <b>1</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>6</b>         | <b>14</b>    | <b>-57%</b>                 |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 2            | 8            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 3          | 1          | 0          | 3                | 11           | -73%                        |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 0            | 3            | 1          | 0          | 2          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 3                | 3            | 0%                          |
| <b>Existing Adult Patients Fitted</b>                              | <b>498</b>   | <b>595</b>   | <b>66</b>  | <b>76</b>  | <b>191</b> | <b>284</b> | <b>273</b> | <b>372</b> | <b>1,028</b>     | <b>1,327</b> | <b>-23%</b>                 |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 430          | 481          | 60         | 69         | 170        | 243        | 234        | 307        | 894              | 1,100        | -19%                        |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 68           | 114          | 6          | 7          | 21         | 41         | 39         | 65         | 134              | 227          | -41%                        |
| <b>Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements 1</b>     |              |              |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>Patients Issued with Replacements 1</b>                         | <b>696</b>   | <b>712</b>   | <b>451</b> | <b>586</b> | <b>239</b> | <b>205</b> | <b>237</b> | <b>154</b> | <b>1,623</b>     | <b>1,657</b> | <b>-2%</b>                  |
| Child Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements        | 6            | 42           | 21         | 37         | 20         | 15         | 11         | 11         | 58               | 105          | -45%                        |
| Adult Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements        | 690          | 670          | 430        | 549        | 219        | 190        | 226        | 143        | 1,565            | 1,552        | 1%                          |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

<sup>2</sup> Digital hearing aid replacements are only issued to existing clients who have already been fitted with a digital hearing aid, please note that these should not be added to the total digital hearing aids and analogue hearing aids issued to the client.

**Table A.2: Patients Assessed for a Hearing Aid during the Quarter, by Type of Aid, Patient Type and Outcome of Assessment <sup>1</sup>**

|   | numbers      |              |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              | percentage                  |
|---|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|   | EHSSB        |              | NHSSB      |            | SHSSB      |            | WHSSB      |            | Northern Ireland |              | % Change since last quarter |
|   | Mar-07       | Dec-06       | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07           | Dec-06       |                             |
| <b>All Patients Assessed</b>  |              |              |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>All Patients Assessed</b>  | <b>1,858</b> | <b>1,790</b> | <b>584</b> | <b>603</b> | <b>546</b> | <b>610</b> | <b>410</b> | <b>524</b> | <b>3,398</b>     | <b>3,527</b> | <b>-4%</b>                  |
| All Adults Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid                       | 1,827        | 1,773        | 584        | 597        | 540        | 595        | 404        | 521        | 3,355            | 3,486        | -4%                         |
| All Children Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid                     | 31           | 17           | 0          | 6          | 6          | 15         | 6          | 3          | 43               | 41           | 5%                          |
| <b>New Patients Assessed</b>  |              |              |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>New Patients Assessed</b>  | <b>1,241</b> | <b>1,017</b> | <b>410</b> | <b>383</b> | <b>382</b> | <b>376</b> | <b>233</b> | <b>290</b> | <b>2,266</b>     | <b>2,066</b> | <b>10%</b>                  |
| Adult Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid       | 1,210        | 988          | 395        | 362        | 348        | 336        | 228        | 286        | 2,181            | 1,972        | 11%                         |
| Child Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid       | 22           | 17           | 0          | 6          | 6          | 11         | 4          | 0          | 32               | 34           | -6%                         |
| Adult Patients Assessed as Unsuitable for a Digital Hearing Aid     | 9            | 12           | 15         | 15         | 28         | 29         | 1          | 4          | 53               | 60           | -12%                        |
| Child Patients Assessed as Unsuitable for a Digital Hearing Aid     | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| Total Adult Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid | 1,219        | 1,000        | 410        | 377        | 376        | 365        | 229        | 290        | 2,234            | 2,032        | 10%                         |
| Total Child Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid | 22           | 17           | 0          | 6          | 6          | 11         | 4          | 0          | 32               | 34           | -6%                         |
| <b>Existing Patients Assessed</b>                                   |              |              |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>Existing Patients Assessed</b>                                   | <b>617</b>   | <b>773</b>   | <b>174</b> | <b>220</b> | <b>164</b> | <b>234</b> | <b>177</b> | <b>234</b> | <b>1,132</b>     | <b>1,461</b> | <b>-23%</b>                 |
| Adult Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid       | 608          | 773          | 174        | 220        | 164        | 230        | 175        | 231        | 1,121            | 1,454        | -23%                        |
| Child Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid       | 9            | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 4          | 2          | 3          | 11               | 7            | 57%                         |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

**Table B.1: Number of Aids Issued during Quarter, by Expenditure on these Aids <sup>1</sup>**

|  | numbers       |               |              |              |              |              |              |              |                  |               | percentage                  |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
|  | EHSSB         |               | NHSSB        |              | SHSSB        |              | WHSSB        |              | Northern Ireland |               | % Change since last quarter |
|  | Mar-07        | Dec-06        | Mar-07       | Dec-06       | Mar-07       | Dec-06       | Mar-07       | Dec-06       | Mar-07           | Dec-06        |                             |
| <b>All Aids Issued</b>                                   |               |               |              |              |              |              |              |              |                  |               |                             |
| <b>Total Number of Aids Issued</b>                       | <b>1,737</b>  | <b>1,960</b>  | <b>865</b>   | <b>1,039</b> | <b>639</b>   | <b>1,088</b> | <b>815</b>   | <b>757</b>   | <b>4,056</b>     | <b>4,844</b>  | <b>-16%</b>                 |
| Adults receiving Digital Hearing Aids                    | 1,626         | 1,780         | 835          | 989          | 584          | 1,020        | 759          | 672          | 3,804            | 4,461         | -15%                        |
| Adults receiving Analogue Hearing Aids                   | 86            | 118           | 6            | 7            | 21           | 43           | 40           | 70           | 153              | 238           | -36%                        |
| Children receiving Digital Hearing Aids                  | 25            | 59            | 23           | 43           | 32           | 25           | 16           | 15           | 96               | 142           | -32%                        |
| Children receiving Analogue Hearing Aids                 | 0             | 3             | 1            | 0            | 2            | 0            | 0            | 0            | 3                | 3             | 0%                          |
| <b>Total Cost of Aids Issued</b>                         |               |               |              |              |              |              |              |              |                  |               |                             |
| <b>Total Cost of Aids Issued during Quarter (,000's)</b> | <b>£168.2</b> | <b>£158.8</b> | <b>£61.2</b> | <b>£65.1</b> | <b>£60.7</b> | <b>£66.7</b> | <b>£50.6</b> | <b>£45.0</b> | <b>£340.6</b>    | <b>£335.6</b> | -                           |
| Cost for Adult Digital Hearing Aids (,000's)             | £160.8        | £145.0        | £57.9        | £59.1        | £57.5        | £63.1        | £46.5        | £40.6        | £322.8           | £307.9        | -                           |
| Cost for Adult Analogue Hearing Aids (,000's)            | £4.3          | £6.6          | £0.9         | £0.0         | £1.0         | £2.0         | £2.7         | £3.5         | £8.9             | £12.2         | -                           |
| Cost for Child Digital Hearing Aids (,000's)             | £3.0          | £6.4          | £2.3         | £6.0         | £2.1         | £1.6         | £1.4         | £0.9         | £8.8             | £14.9         | -                           |
| Cost for Child Analogue Hearing Aids (,000's)            | £0.0          | £0.7          | £0.1         | £0.0         | £0.1         | £0.0         | £0.0         | £0.0         | £0.2             | £0.7          | -                           |
| <b>Average Cost of Aids Issued</b>                       |               |               |              |              |              |              |              |              |                  |               |                             |
| <b>Average Cost per Aid</b>                              | <b>£96.8</b>  | <b>£81.0</b>  | <b>£70.7</b> | <b>£62.6</b> | <b>£95.0</b> | <b>£61.3</b> | <b>£62.1</b> | <b>£59.5</b> | <b>£84.0</b>     | <b>£69.3</b>  | -                           |
| Average Cost of Adult Digital Hearing Aid                | £98.9         | £81.5         | £69.3        | £59.8        | £98.5        | £61.9        | £61.3        | £60.5        | £84.8            | £69.0         | -                           |
| Average Cost of Adult Analogue Hearing Aid               | £50.4         | £56.2         | £149.0       | £0.0         | £46.4        | £47.5        | £66.8        | £49.8        | £58.0            | £51.1         | -                           |
| Average Cost of Child Digital Hearing Aid                | £119.0        | £109.0        | £101.6       | £139.3       | £66.6        | £63.2        | £86.0        | £60.7        | £91.9            | £105.0        | -                           |
| Average Cost of Child Analogue Hearing Aid               | £0.0          | £225.0        | £89.0        | £0.0         | £39.0        | £0.0         | £0.0         | £0.0         | £55.7            | £225.0        | -                           |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

**Table C.1: Completed Waits for Hearing Aid Assessments and Re-Assessments During Quarter ending 31 March 2007<sup>1, 2</sup>**

|                                     | numbers      |              |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              | percentage                  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|                                     | EHSSB        |              | NHSSB      |            | SHSSB      |            | WHSSB      |            | Northern Ireland |              | % Change since last quarter |
|                                     | Mar-07       | Dec-06       | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07           | Dec-06       |                             |
| <b>All Completed Waits</b>          | <b>1,899</b> | <b>1,478</b> | <b>405</b> | <b>483</b> | <b>487</b> | <b>614</b> | <b>552</b> | <b>616</b> | <b>3,343</b>     | <b>3,191</b> | 5%                          |
| Less than 3 months                  | 1,283        | 1,159        | 405        | 483        | 271        | 264        | 552        | 475        | 2,511            | 2,381        | 5%                          |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 554          | 310          | 0          | 0          | 192        | 244        | 0          | 141        | 746              | 695          | 7%                          |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 59           | 9            | 0          | 0          | 21         | 89         | 0          | 0          | 80               | 98           | -18%                        |
| 12 months or more                   | 3            | 0            | 0          | 0          | 3          | 17         | 0          | 0          | 6                | 17           | -65%                        |
| <b>Completed Waits for Children</b> | <b>19</b>    | <b>9</b>     | <b>0</b>   | <b>43</b>  | <b>7</b>   | <b>5</b>   | <b>5</b>   | <b>2</b>   | <b>31</b>        | <b>59</b>    | -47%                        |
| Less than 3 months                  | 19           | 9            | 0          | 43         | 7          | 0          | 5          | 2          | 31               | 54           | -43%                        |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 5          | 0          | 0          | 0                | 5            | -100%                       |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| 12 months or more                   | 0            | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| <b>Completed Waits for Adults</b>   | <b>1,880</b> | <b>1,469</b> | <b>405</b> | <b>440</b> | <b>480</b> | <b>609</b> | <b>547</b> | <b>614</b> | <b>3,312</b>     | <b>3,132</b> | 6%                          |
| Less than 3 months                  | 1,264        | 1,150        | 405        | 440        | 264        | 264        | 547        | 473        | 2,480            | 2,327        | 7%                          |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 554          | 310          | 0          | 0          | 192        | 239        | 0          | 141        | 746              | 690          | 8%                          |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 59           | 9            | 0          | 0          | 21         | 89         | 0          | 0          | 80               | 98           | -18%                        |
| 12 months or more                   | 3            | 0            | 0          | 0          | 3          | 17         | 0          | 0          | 6                | 17           | -65%                        |

Source: AUD1 Survey

**Table C.2: HSS Board Analysis of Completed Waits for Hearing Aid Assessments and Re-Assessments during Quarter ending 31 March 2007<sup>1, 2</sup>**

|                                     | numbers      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |            |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------|
|                                     | EHSSB        |            | NHSSB      |            | SHSSB      |            | WHSSB      |            | Northern Ireland |            |
|                                     | Number       | %          | Number     | %          | Number     | %          | Number     | %          | Number           | %          |
| <b>All Completed Waits</b>          | <b>1,899</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>405</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>487</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>552</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>3,343</b>     | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                  | 1,283        | 68         | 405        | 100        | 271        | 56         | 552        | 100        | 2,511            | 75         |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 554          | 29         | 0          | 0          | 192        | 39         | 0          | 0          | 746              | 22         |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 59           | 3          | 0          | 0          | 21         | 4          | 0          | 0          | 80               | 2          |
| 12 months or more                   | 3            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 3          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 6                | 0          |
| <b>Completed Waits for Children</b> | <b>19</b>    | <b>100</b> | <b>0</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>7</b>   | <b>100</b> | <b>5</b>   | <b>100</b> | <b>31</b>        | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                  | 19           | 100        | 0          | -          | 7          | 100        | 5          | 100        | 31               | 100        |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 0            | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0                | -          |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 0            | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0                | -          |
| 12 months or more                   | 0            | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0                | -          |
| <b>Completed Waits for Adults</b>   | <b>1,880</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>405</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>480</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>547</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>3,312</b>     | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                  | 1,264        | 67         | 405        | 100        | 264        | 55         | 547        | 100        | 2,480            | 75         |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 554          | 29         | 0          | 0          | 192        | 40         | 0          | 0          | 746              | 23         |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 59           | 3          | 0          | 0          | 21         | 4          | 0          | 0          | 80               | 2          |
| 12 months or more                   | 3            | 0          | 0          | 0          | 3          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 6                | 0          |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> Completed waiting times for hearing aid assessment / re-assessments are counted from the date the referral is received by the Audiology Department until the aid is fitted.

<sup>2</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

**Table C.3: Incomplete Waits for a Hearing Aid Assessment / Re-Assessment at 31 March 2007<sup>1, 2</sup>**

|                                      | numbers    |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |              | percentage                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|                                      | EHSSB      |            | NHSSB      |            | SHSSB      |            | WHSSB      |            | Northern Ireland |              | % Change since last quarter |
|                                      | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07     | Dec-06     | Mar-07           | Dec-06       |                             |
| <b>All Incomplete Waits</b>          | <b>655</b> | <b>688</b> | <b>258</b> | <b>396</b> | <b>234</b> | <b>314</b> | <b>146</b> | <b>257</b> | <b>1,293</b>     | <b>1,655</b> | <b>-22%</b>                 |
| Less than 3 months                   | 411        | 601        | 164        | 184        | 173        | 217        | 146        | 233        | 894              | 1,235        | -28%                        |
| 3 to 6 months                        | 115        | 71         | 69         | 143        | 52         | 81         | 0          | 24         | 236              | 319          | -26%                        |
| 6 to 12 months                       | 54         | 15         | 25         | 69         | 7          | 15         | 0          | 0          | 86               | 99           | -13%                        |
| 12 months or more                    | 75         | 1          | 0          | 0          | 2          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 77               | 2            | 3750%                       |
| <b>Incomplete Waits for Children</b> | <b>35</b>  | <b>1</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>3</b>   | <b>1</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>   | <b>38</b>        | <b>2</b>     | <b>1800%</b>                |
| Less than 3 months                   | 35         | 1          | 0          | 0          | 3          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 38               | 2            | 1800%                       |
| 3 to 6 months                        | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| 6 to 12 months                       | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| 12 months or more                    | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| <b>Incomplete Waits for Adults</b>   | <b>620</b> | <b>687</b> | <b>258</b> | <b>396</b> | <b>231</b> | <b>313</b> | <b>146</b> | <b>257</b> | <b>1,255</b>     | <b>1,653</b> | <b>-24%</b>                 |
| Less than 3 months                   | 376        | 600        | 164        | 184        | 170        | 216        | 146        | 233        | 856              | 1,233        | -31%                        |
| 3 to 6 months                        | 115        | 71         | 69         | 143        | 52         | 81         | 0          | 24         | 236              | 319          | -26%                        |
| 6 to 12 months                       | 54         | 15         | 25         | 69         | 7          | 15         | 0          | 0          | 86               | 99           | -13%                        |
| 12 months or more                    | 75         | 1          | 0          | 0          | 2          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 77               | 2            | 3750%                       |

Source: AUD1 Survey

**Table C.4: HSS Board Analysis of Incomplete Waits for a Hearing Aid Assessment / Re-Assessment at 31 March 2007<sup>1, 2</sup>**

|                                      | numbers    |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |                  |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|------------|
|                                      | EHSSB      |            | NHSSB      |            | SHSSB      |            | WHSSB      |            | Northern Ireland |            |
|                                      | Number     | %          | Number     | %          | Number     | %          | Number     | %          | Number           | %          |
| <b>All Incomplete Waits</b>          | <b>655</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>258</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>234</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>146</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>1,293</b>     | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                   | 411        | 63         | 164        | 64         | 173        | 74         | 146        | 100        | 894              | 69         |
| 3 to 6 months                        | 115        | 18         | 69         | 27         | 52         | 22         | 0          | 0          | 236              | 18         |
| 6 to 12 months                       | 54         | 8          | 25         | 10         | 7          | 3          | 0          | 0          | 86               | 7          |
| 12 months or more                    | 75         | 11         | 0          | 0          | 2          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 77               | 6          |
| <b>Incomplete Waits for Children</b> | <b>35</b>  | <b>100</b> | <b>0</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>3</b>   | <b>100</b> | <b>0</b>   | <b>-</b>   | <b>38</b>        | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                   | 35         | 100        | 0          | -          | 3          | 100        | 0          | -          | 38               | 100        |
| 3 to 6 months                        | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0                | -          |
| 6 to 12 months                       | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0                | -          |
| 12 months or more                    | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0          | -          | 0                | -          |
| <b>Incomplete Waits for Adults</b>   | <b>620</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>258</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>231</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>146</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>1,255</b>     | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                   | 376        | 61         | 164        | 64         | 170        | 74         | 146        | 100        | 856              | 68         |
| 3 to 6 months                        | 115        | 19         | 69         | 27         | 52         | 23         | 0          | 0          | 236              | 19         |
| 6 to 12 months                       | 54         | 9          | 25         | 10         | 7          | 3          | 0          | 0          | 86               | 7          |
| 12 months or more                    | 75         | 12         | 0          | 0          | 2          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 77               | 6          |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> Incomplete waiting times refer to patients who have been referred to the Audiology Department who have not yet been fitted with their aid. Waiting times in this case are counted from the date referral is received until the end of the quarter.

<sup>2</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

# Appendices

## Appendix 1: Patients Fitted with Hearing Aids during Quarter, by Type of Aid, Patient Type and HSC Trust,<sup>1, 2</sup>

|  | numbers           |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              | percentage                  |
|--|-------------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|  | Belfast HSC Trust |            | South Eastern HSC Trust |            | Northern HSC Trust |            | Southern HSC Trust |            | Western HSC Trust |            | Northern Ireland |              | % Change since last quarter |
|  | Mar-07            | Dec-06     | Mar-07                  | Dec-06     | Mar-07             | Dec-06     | Mar-07             | Dec-06     | Mar-07            | Dec-06     | Mar-07           | Dec-06       |                             |
| <b>Total Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid During the Quarter</b>       |                   |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>All Patients Fitted</b>   | <b>738</b>        | <b>826</b> | <b>936</b>              | <b>763</b> | <b>414</b>         | <b>453</b> | <b>579</b>         | <b>701</b> | <b>578</b>        | <b>625</b> | <b>3,245</b>     | <b>3,368</b> | <b>-4%</b>                  |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 705               | 780        | 883                     | 688        | 407                | 446        | 556                | 660        | 538               | 559        | 3,089            | 3,133        | -1%                         |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 33                | 46         | 53                      | 75         | 7                  | 7          | 23                 | 41         | 40                | 66         | 156              | 235          | -34%                        |
| <b>Child Patients Fitted</b>   | <b>17</b>         | <b>10</b>  | <b>2</b>                | <b>10</b>  | <b>3</b>           | <b>6</b>   | <b>12</b>          | <b>13</b>  | <b>5</b>          | <b>2</b>   | <b>39</b>        | <b>41</b>    | <b>-5%</b>                  |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 17                | 7          | 2                       | 10         | 2                  | 6          | 10                 | 13         | 5                 | 2          | 36               | 38           | -5%                         |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 0                 | 3          | 0                       | 0          | 1                  | 0          | 2                  | 0          | 0                 | 0          | 3                | 3            | 0%                          |
| <b>Adult Patients Fitted</b>   | <b>721</b>        | <b>816</b> | <b>934</b>              | <b>753</b> | <b>411</b>         | <b>447</b> | <b>567</b>         | <b>688</b> | <b>573</b>        | <b>623</b> | <b>3,206</b>     | <b>3,327</b> | <b>-4%</b>                  |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 688               | 773        | 881                     | 678        | 405                | 440        | 546                | 647        | 533               | 557        | 3,053            | 3,095        | -1%                         |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 33                | 43         | 53                      | 75         | 6                  | 7          | 21                 | 41         | 40                | 66         | 153              | 232          | -34%                        |
| <b>New Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid</b>                            |                   |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>New Patients Fitted</b>   | <b>500</b>        | <b>494</b> | <b>674</b>              | <b>489</b> | <b>347</b>         | <b>377</b> | <b>386</b>         | <b>414</b> | <b>304</b>        | <b>253</b> | <b>2,211</b>     | <b>2,027</b> | <b>9%</b>                   |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 500               | 494        | 656                     | 485        | 347                | 377        | 386                | 414        | 303               | 252        | 2,192            | 2,022        | 8%                          |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 0                 | 0          | 18                      | 4          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 1                 | 1          | 19               | 5            | 280%                        |
| <b>New Child Patients Fitted</b>   | <b>15</b>         | <b>7</b>   | <b>2</b>                | <b>2</b>   | <b>2</b>           | <b>6</b>   | <b>10</b>          | <b>10</b>  | <b>4</b>          | <b>2</b>   | <b>33</b>        | <b>27</b>    | <b>22%</b>                  |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 15                | 7          | 2                       | 2          | 2                  | 6          | 10                 | 10         | 4                 | 2          | 33               | 27           | 22%                         |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 0                 | 0          | 0                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                 | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| <b>New Adult Patients Fitted</b>   | <b>485</b>        | <b>487</b> | <b>672</b>              | <b>487</b> | <b>345</b>         | <b>371</b> | <b>376</b>         | <b>404</b> | <b>300</b>        | <b>251</b> | <b>2,178</b>     | <b>2,000</b> | <b>9%</b>                   |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 485               | 487        | 654                     | 483        | 345                | 371        | 376                | 404        | 299               | 250        | 2,159            | 1,995        | 8%                          |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 0                 | 0          | 18                      | 4          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 1                 | 1          | 19               | 5            | 280%                        |
| <b>Existing Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid</b>                       |                   |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>Existing Patients Fitted</b>  | <b>238</b>        | <b>332</b> | <b>262</b>              | <b>274</b> | <b>67</b>          | <b>76</b>  | <b>193</b>         | <b>287</b> | <b>274</b>        | <b>372</b> | <b>1,034</b>     | <b>1,341</b> | <b>-23%</b>                 |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 205               | 286        | 227                     | 203        | 60                 | 69         | 170                | 246        | 235               | 307        | 897              | 1,111        | -19%                        |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 33                | 46         | 35                      | 71         | 7                  | 7          | 23                 | 41         | 39                | 65         | 137              | 230          | -40%                        |
| <b>Existing Child Patients Fitted</b>                                    | <b>2</b>          | <b>3</b>   | <b>0</b>                | <b>8</b>   | <b>1</b>           | <b>0</b>   | <b>2</b>           | <b>3</b>   | <b>1</b>          | <b>0</b>   | <b>6</b>         | <b>14</b>    | <b>-57%</b>                 |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 2                 | 0          | 0                       | 8          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 3          | 1                 | 0          | 3                | 11           | -73%                        |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 0                 | 3          | 0                       | 0          | 1                  | 0          | 2                  | 0          | 0                 | 0          | 3                | 3            | 0%                          |
| <b>Existing Adult Patients Fitted</b>                                    | <b>236</b>        | <b>329</b> | <b>262</b>              | <b>266</b> | <b>66</b>          | <b>76</b>  | <b>191</b>         | <b>284</b> | <b>273</b>        | <b>372</b> | <b>1,028</b>     | <b>1,327</b> | <b>-23%</b>                 |
| Digital Hearing Aid  | 203               | 286        | 227                     | 195        | 60                 | 69         | 170                | 243        | 234               | 307        | 894              | 1,100        | -19%                        |
| Analogue Hearing Aid   | 33                | 43         | 35                      | 71         | 6                  | 7          | 21                 | 41         | 39                | 65         | 134              | 227          | -41%                        |
| <b>Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements<sup>1</sup></b> |                   |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>Patients Issued with Replacements<sup>1</sup></b>                     | <b>440</b>        | <b>311</b> | <b>256</b>              | <b>401</b> | <b>451</b>         | <b>586</b> | <b>239</b>         | <b>205</b> | <b>237</b>        | <b>154</b> | <b>1,623</b>     | <b>1,657</b> | <b>-2%</b>                  |
| Child Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements              | 0                 | 42         | 6                       | 0          | 21                 | 37         | 20                 | 15         | 11                | 11         | 58               | 105          | -45%                        |
| Adult Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements              | 440               | 269        | 250                     | 401        | 430                | 549        | 219                | 190        | 226               | 143        | 1,565            | 1,552        | 1%                          |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> Digital hearing aid replacements are only issued to existing clients who have already been fitted with a digital hearing aid, please note that these should not be added to the total digital hearing aids and analogue hearing aids issued to the client.

<sup>2</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

**Appendix 2: Patients Assessed for a Hearing Aid during the quarter, by Type of Aid, Patient Type and HSC Trust <sup>1</sup>**

|   | numbers           |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              | percentage                  |
|---|-------------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|   | Belfast HSC Trust |            | South Eastern HSC Trust |            | Northern HSC Trust |            | Southern HSC Trust |            | Western HSC Trust |            | Northern Ireland |              | % Change since last quarter |
|   | Mar-07            | Dec-06     | Mar-07                  | Dec-06     | Mar-07             | Dec-06     | Mar-07             | Dec-06     | Mar-07            | Dec-06     | Mar-07           | Dec-06       |                             |
| <b>All Patients Assessed</b>                                    |                   |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>All Patients Assessed</b>                                    | <b>969</b>        | <b>807</b> | <b>889</b>              | <b>983</b> | <b>584</b>         | <b>603</b> | <b>546</b>         | <b>610</b> | <b>410</b>        | <b>524</b> | <b>3,398</b>     | <b>3,527</b> | <b>-4%</b>                  |
| All Adults Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid                   | 946               | 800        | 881                     | 973        | 584                | 597        | 540                | 595        | 404               | 521        | 3,355            | 3,486        | -4%                         |
| All Children Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid                 | 23                | 7          | 8                       | 10         | 0                  | 6          | 6                  | 15         | 6                 | 3          | 43               | 41           | 5%                          |
| <b>New Patients Assessed</b>                                    |                   |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>New Patients Assessed</b>                                    | <b>585</b>        | <b>524</b> | <b>656</b>              | <b>493</b> | <b>410</b>         | <b>383</b> | <b>382</b>         | <b>376</b> | <b>233</b>        | <b>290</b> | <b>2,266</b>     | <b>2,066</b> | <b>10%</b>                  |
| Adult Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid   | 556               | 505        | 654                     | 483        | 395                | 362        | 348                | 336        | 228               | 286        | 2,181            | 1,972        | 11%                         |
| Child Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid   | 20                | 7          | 2                       | 10         | 0                  | 6          | 6                  | 11         | 4                 | 0          | 32               | 34           | -6%                         |
| Adult Patients Assessed as Unsuitable for a Digital Hearing Aid | 9                 | 12         | 0                       | 0          | 15                 | 15         | 28                 | 29         | 1                 | 4          | 53               | 60           | -12%                        |
| Child Patients Assessed as Unsuitable for a Digital Hearing Aid | 0                 | 0          | 0                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                 | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| Total Adult Patients Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid         | 565               | 517        | 654                     | 483        | 410                | 377        | 376                | 365        | 229               | 290        | 2,234            | 2,032        | 10%                         |
| Total Child Patients Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid         | 20                | 7          | 2                       | 10         | 0                  | 6          | 6                  | 11         | 4                 | 0          | 32               | 34           | -6%                         |
| <b>Existing Patients Assessed</b>                               |                   |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              |                             |
| <b>Existing Patients Assessed</b>                               | <b>384</b>        | <b>283</b> | <b>233</b>              | <b>490</b> | <b>174</b>         | <b>220</b> | <b>164</b>         | <b>234</b> | <b>177</b>        | <b>234</b> | <b>1,132</b>     | <b>1,461</b> | <b>-23%</b>                 |
| Adult Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid   | 381               | 283        | 227                     | 490        | 174                | 220        | 164                | 230        | 175               | 231        | 1,121            | 1,454        | -23%                        |
| Child Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid   | 3                 | 0          | 6                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 4          | 2                 | 3          | 11               | 7            | 57%                         |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

**Appendix 3: Number of Aids Issued during Quarter, by Expenditure on these Aids and HSC Trust <sup>1</sup>**

|  | numbers           |              |                         |              |                    |              |                    |              |                   |              |                  |               | percentage                  |
|--|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
|  | Belfast HSC Trust |              | South Eastern HSC Trust |              | Northern HSC Trust |              | Southern HSC Trust |              | Western HSC Trust |              | Northern Ireland |               | % Change since last quarter |
|  | Mar-07            | Dec-06       | Mar-07                  | Dec-06       | Mar-07             | Dec-06       | Mar-07             | Dec-06       | Mar-07            | Dec-06       | Mar-07           | Dec-06        |                             |
| <b>All Aids Issued</b>                                   |                   |              |                         |              |                    |              |                    |              |                   |              |                  |               |                             |
| <b>Total Number of Aids Issued</b>                       | <b>754</b>        | <b>1,159</b> | <b>983</b>              | <b>801</b>   | <b>865</b>         | <b>1,039</b> | <b>639</b>         | <b>1,088</b> | <b>815</b>        | <b>757</b>   | <b>4,056</b>     | <b>4,844</b>  | <b>-16%</b>                 |
| Adults receiving Digital Hearing Aids                    | 704               | 1,064        | 922                     | 716          | 835                | 989          | 584                | 1,020        | 759               | 672          | 3,804            | 4,461         | -15%                        |
| Adults receiving Analogue Hearing Aids                   | 33                | 43           | 53                      | 75           | 6                  | 7            | 21                 | 43           | 40                | 70           | 153              | 238           | -36%                        |
| Children receiving Digital Hearing Aids                  | 17                | 49           | 8                       | 10           | 23                 | 43           | 32                 | 25           | 16                | 15           | 96               | 142           | -32%                        |
| Children receiving Analogue Hearing Aids                 | 0                 | 3            | 0                       | 0            | 1                  | 0            | 2                  | 0            | 0                 | 0            | 3                | 3             | 0%                          |
| <b>Total Cost of Aids Issued</b>                         |                   |              |                         |              |                    |              |                    |              |                   |              |                  |               |                             |
| <b>Total Cost of Aids Issued during Quarter (,000's)</b> | <b>£78.1</b>      | <b>£86.1</b> | <b>£90.1</b>            | <b>£72.7</b> | <b>£61.2</b>       | <b>£65.1</b> | <b>£60.7</b>       | <b>£66.7</b> | <b>£50.6</b>      | <b>£45.0</b> | <b>£340.6</b>    | <b>£335.6</b> | -                           |
| Cost for Adult Digital Hearing Aids (,000's)             | £75.2             | £78.3        | £85.6                   | £66.7        | £57.9              | £59.1        | £57.5              | £63.1        | £46.5             | £40.6        | £322.8           | £307.9        | -                           |
| Cost for Adult Analogue Hearing Aids (,000's)            | £1.0              | £1.9         | £3.4                    | £4.7         | £0.9               | £0.0         | £1.0               | £2.0         | £2.7              | £3.5         | £8.9             | £12.2         | -                           |
| Cost for Child Digital Hearing Aids (,000's)             | £1.9              | £5.2         | £1.1                    | £1.2         | £2.3               | £6.0         | £2.1               | £1.6         | £1.4              | £0.9         | £8.8             | £14.9         | -                           |
| Cost for Child Analogue Hearing Aids (,000's)            | £0.0              | £0.7         | £0.0                    | £0.0         | £0.1               | £0.0         | £0.1               | £0.0         | £0.0              | £0.0         | £0.2             | £0.7          | -                           |
| <b>Average Cost of Aids Issued</b>                       |                   |              |                         |              |                    |              |                    |              |                   |              |                  |               |                             |
| <b>Average Cost per Aid</b>                              | <b>£103.5</b>     | <b>£74.3</b> | <b>£91.7</b>            | <b>£90.7</b> | <b>£70.7</b>       | <b>£62.6</b> | <b>£95.0</b>       | <b>£61.3</b> | <b>£62.1</b>      | <b>£59.5</b> | <b>£84.0</b>     | <b>£69.3</b>  | -                           |
| Average Cost of Adult Digital Hearing Aid                | £106.8            | £73.6        | £92.9                   | £93.2        | £69.3              | £59.8        | £98.5              | £61.9        | £61.3             | £60.5        | £84.8            | £69.0         | -                           |
| Average Cost of Adult Analogue Hearing Aid               | £29.1             | £44.4        | £63.7                   | £63.0        | £149.0             | £0.0         | £46.4              | £47.5        | £66.8             | £49.8        | £58.0            | £51.1         | -                           |
| Average Cost of Child Digital Hearing Aid                | £111.5            | £106.0       | £135.0                  | £123.6       | £101.6             | £139.3       | £66.6              | £63.2        | £86.0             | £60.7        | £91.9            | £105.0        | -                           |
| Average Cost of Child Analogue Hearing Aid               | £0.0              | £225.0       | £0.0                    | £0.0         | £89.0              | £0.0         | £39.0              | £0.0         | £0.0              | £0.0         | £55.7            | £225.0        | -                           |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

**Appendix 4: Completed Waits for Hearing Aid Assessments and Re-Assessments during Quarter ending 31 March 2007 by HSC Trust<sup>1, 2</sup>**

|                                     | numbers           |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              | percentage                  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|                                     | Belfast HSC Trust |            | South Eastern HSC Trust |            | Northern HSC Trust |            | Southern HSC Trust |            | Western HSC Trust |            | Northern Ireland |              | % Change since last quarter |
|                                     | Mar-07            | Dec-06     | Mar-07                  | Dec-06     | Mar-07             | Dec-06     | Mar-07             | Dec-06     | Mar-07            | Dec-06     | Mar-07           | Dec-06       |                             |
| <b>All Completed Waits</b>          | <b>975</b>        | <b>798</b> | <b>924</b>              | <b>680</b> | <b>405</b>         | <b>483</b> | <b>487</b>         | <b>614</b> | <b>552</b>        | <b>616</b> | <b>3,343</b>     | <b>3,191</b> | 5%                          |
| Less than 3 months                  | 809               | 637        | 474                     | 522        | 405                | 483        | 271                | 264        | 552               | 475        | 2,511            | 2,381        | 5%                          |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 154               | 152        | 400                     | 158        | 0                  | 0          | 192                | 244        | 0                 | 141        | 746              | 695          | 7%                          |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 12                | 9          | 47                      | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 21                 | 89         | 0                 | 0          | 80               | 98           | -18%                        |
| 12 months or more                   | 0                 | 0          | 3                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 3                  | 17         | 0                 | 0          | 6                | 17           | -65%                        |
| <b>Completed Waits for Children</b> | <b>17</b>         | <b>7</b>   | <b>2</b>                | <b>2</b>   | <b>0</b>           | <b>43</b>  | <b>7</b>           | <b>5</b>   | <b>5</b>          | <b>2</b>   | <b>31</b>        | <b>59</b>    | -47%                        |
| Less than 3 months                  | 17                | 7          | 2                       | 2          | 0                  | 43         | 7                  | 0          | 5                 | 2          | 31               | 54           | -43%                        |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 0                 | 0          | 0                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 5          | 0                 | 0          | 0                | 5            | -100%                       |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 0                 | 0          | 0                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                 | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| 12 months or more                   | 0                 | 0          | 0                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                 | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| <b>Completed Waits for Adults</b>   | <b>958</b>        | <b>791</b> | <b>922</b>              | <b>678</b> | <b>405</b>         | <b>440</b> | <b>480</b>         | <b>609</b> | <b>547</b>        | <b>614</b> | <b>3,312</b>     | <b>3,132</b> | 6%                          |
| Less than 3 months                  | 792               | 630        | 472                     | 520        | 405                | 440        | 264                | 264        | 547               | 473        | 2480             | 2327         | 7%                          |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 154               | 152        | 400                     | 158        | 0                  | 0          | 192                | 239        | 0                 | 141        | 746              | 690          | 8%                          |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 12                | 9          | 47                      | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 21                 | 89         | 0                 | 0          | 80               | 98           | -18%                        |
| 12 months or more                   | 0                 | 0          | 3                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 3                  | 17         | 0                 | 0          | 6                | 17           | -65%                        |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> Completed waiting times for hearing aid assessment / re-assessments are counted from the date the referral is received by the Audiology Department until the aid is fitted.

<sup>2</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

**Appendix 5: HSC Trust Analysis of Completed Waits for Hearing Aid Assessments and Re-Assessments during Quarter ending 31 March 2007<sup>1, 2</sup>**

numbers

|                                     | Belfast HSC Trust |            | South Eastern HSC Trust |            | Northern HSC Trust |            | Southern HSC Trust |            | Western HSC Trust |            | Northern Ireland |            |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
|                                     | Number            | %          | Number                  | %          | Number             | %          | Number             | %          | Number            | %          | Number           | %          |
| <b>All Completed Waits</b>          | <b>975</b>        | <b>100</b> | <b>924</b>              | <b>100</b> | <b>405</b>         | <b>100</b> | <b>487</b>         | <b>100</b> | <b>552</b>        | <b>100</b> | <b>3,343</b>     | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                  | 809               | 83         | 474                     | 51         | 405                | 100        | 271                | 56         | 552               | 100        | 2,511            | 75         |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 154               | 16         | 400                     | 43         | 0                  | 0          | 192                | 39         | 0                 | 0          | 746              | 22         |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 12                | 1          | 47                      | 5          | 0                  | 0          | 21                 | 4          | 0                 | 0          | 80               | 2          |
| 12 months or more                   | 0                 | 0          | 3                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 3                  | 1          | 0                 | 0          | 6                | 0          |
| <b>Completed Waits for Children</b> | <b>17</b>         | <b>100</b> | <b>2</b>                | <b>100</b> | <b>0</b>           | <b>-</b>   | <b>7</b>           | <b>100</b> | <b>5</b>          | <b>100</b> | <b>31</b>        | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                  | 17                | 100        | 2                       | 100        | 0                  | -          | 7                  | 100        | 5                 | 100        | 31               | 100        |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 0                 | -          | 0                       | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                 | -          | 0                | -          |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 0                 | -          | 0                       | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                 | -          | 0                | -          |
| 12 months or more                   | 0                 | -          | 0                       | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                 | -          | 0                | -          |
| <b>Completed Waits for Adults</b>   | <b>958</b>        | <b>100</b> | <b>922</b>              | <b>100</b> | <b>405</b>         | <b>100</b> | <b>480</b>         | <b>100</b> | <b>547</b>        | <b>100</b> | <b>3,312</b>     | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                  | 792               | 83         | 472                     | 51         | 405                | 100        | 264                | 55         | 547               | 100        | 2,480            | 75         |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 154               | 16         | 400                     | 43         | 0                  | 0          | 192                | 40         | 0                 | 0          | 746              | 23         |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 12                | 1          | 47                      | 5          | 0                  | 0          | 21                 | 4          | 0                 | 0          | 80               | 2          |
| 12 months or more                   | 0                 | 0          | 3                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 3                  | 1          | 0                 | 0          | 6                | 0          |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> Completed waiting times for hearing aid assessment / re-assessments are counted from the date the referral is received by the Audiology Department until the aid is fitted.

<sup>2</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

**Appendix 6: Incomplete Waits for a Hearing Aid Assessment / Re-Assessment at 31 March 2007, by HSC Trust<sup>1, 2</sup>**

|                                      | numbers           |            |                         |            |                    |            |                    |            |                   |            |                  |              | percentage                  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|                                      | Belfast HSC Trust |            | South Eastern HSC Trust |            | Northern HSC Trust |            | Southern HSC Trust |            | Western HSC Trust |            | Northern Ireland |              | % Change since last quarter |
|                                      | Mar-07            | Dec-06     | Mar-07                  | Dec-06     | Mar-07             | Dec-06     | Mar-07             | Dec-06     | Mar-07            | Dec-06     | Mar-07           | Dec-06       |                             |
| <b>All Incomplete Waits</b>          | <b>414</b>        | <b>368</b> | <b>241</b>              | <b>320</b> | <b>258</b>         | <b>0</b>   | <b>234</b>         | <b>314</b> | <b>146</b>        | <b>257</b> | <b>1,293</b>     | <b>1,655</b> | <b>-22%</b>                 |
| Less than 3 months                   | 321               | 303        | 90                      | 298        | 164                | 184        | 173                | 217        | 146               | 233        | 894              | 1,235        | -28%                        |
| 3 to 6 months                        | 82                | 49         | 33                      | 22         | 69                 | 143        | 52                 | 81         | 0                 | 24         | 236              | 319          | -26%                        |
| 6 to 12 months                       | 10                | 15         | 44                      | 0          | 25                 | 69         | 7                  | 15         | 0                 | 0          | 86               | 99           | -13%                        |
| 12 months or more                    | 1                 | 1          | 74                      | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 2                  | 1          | 0                 | 0          | 77               | 2            | 3750%                       |
| <b>Incomplete Waits for Children</b> | <b>7</b>          | <b>1</b>   | <b>28</b>               | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>           | <b>0</b>   | <b>3</b>           | <b>1</b>   | <b>0</b>          | <b>0</b>   | <b>38</b>        | <b>2</b>     | <b>1800%</b>                |
| Less than 3 months                   | 7                 | 1          | 28                      | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 3                  | 1          | 0                 | 0          | 38               | 2            | 1800%                       |
| 3 to 6 months                        | 0                 | 0          | 0                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                 | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| 6 to 12 months                       | 0                 | 0          | 0                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                 | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| 12 months or more                    | 0                 | 0          | 0                       | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 0                 | 0          | 0                | 0            | -                           |
| <b>Incomplete Waits for Adults</b>   | <b>407</b>        | <b>367</b> | <b>213</b>              | <b>320</b> | <b>258</b>         | <b>396</b> | <b>231</b>         | <b>313</b> | <b>146</b>        | <b>257</b> | <b>1,255</b>     | <b>1,653</b> | <b>-24%</b>                 |
| Less than 3 months                   | 314               | 302        | 62                      | 298        | 164                | 184        | 170                | 216        | 146               | 233        | 856              | 1,233        | -31%                        |
| 3 to 6 months                        | 82                | 49         | 33                      | 22         | 69                 | 143        | 52                 | 81         | 0                 | 24         | 236              | 319          | -26%                        |
| 6 to 12 months                       | 10                | 15         | 44                      | 0          | 25                 | 69         | 7                  | 15         | 0                 | 0          | 86               | 99           | -13%                        |
| 12 months or more                    | 1                 | 1          | 74                      | 0          | 0                  | 0          | 2                  | 1          | 0                 | 0          | 77               | 2            | 3750%                       |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> Incomplete waiting times refer to patients who have been referred to the Audiology Department who have not yet been fitted with their aid. Waiting times in this case are counted from the date referral in received until the end of the quarter.

<sup>2</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

**Appendix 7: HSC Trust Analysis of Incomplete Waits for a Hearing Aid Assessment / Re-Assessment at 31 March 2007<sup>1, 2</sup>**

numbers

|                                     | Belfast HSC Trust |            | South Eastern HSC Trust |            | Northern HSC Trust |            | Southern HSC Trust |            | Western HSC Trust |            | Northern Ireland |            |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
|                                     | Number            | %          | Number                  | %          | Number             | %          | Number             | %          | Number            | %          | Number           | %          |
| <b>All Completed Waits</b>          | <b>414</b>        | <b>100</b> | <b>241</b>              | <b>100</b> | <b>258</b>         | <b>100</b> | <b>234</b>         | <b>100</b> | <b>146</b>        | <b>100</b> | <b>1,293</b>     | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                  | 321               | 78         | 90                      | 37         | 164                | 64         | 173                | 74         | 146               | 100        | 894              | 69         |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 82                | 20         | 33                      | 14         | 69                 | 27         | 52                 | 22         | 0                 | 0          | 236              | 18         |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 10                | 2          | 44                      | 18         | 25                 | 10         | 7                  | 3          | 0                 | 0          | 86               | 7          |
| 12 months or more                   | 1                 | 0          | 74                      | 31         | 0                  | 0          | 2                  | 1          | 0                 | 0          | 77               | 6          |
| <b>Completed Waits for Children</b> | <b>7</b>          | <b>100</b> | <b>28</b>               | <b>100</b> | <b>0</b>           | <b>-</b>   | <b>3</b>           | <b>100</b> | <b>0</b>          | <b>-</b>   | <b>38</b>        | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                  | 7                 | 100        | 28                      | 100        | 0                  | -          | 3                  | 100        | 0                 | -          | 38               | 100        |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 0                 | -          | 0                       | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                 | -          | 0                | -          |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 0                 | -          | 0                       | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                 | -          | 0                | -          |
| 12 months or more                   | 0                 | -          | 0                       | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                  | -          | 0                 | -          | 0                | -          |
| <b>Completed Waits for Adults</b>   | <b>407</b>        | <b>100</b> | <b>213</b>              | <b>100</b> | <b>258</b>         | <b>100</b> | <b>231</b>         | <b>100</b> | <b>146</b>        | <b>100</b> | <b>1,255</b>     | <b>100</b> |
| Less than 3 months                  | 314               | 77         | 62                      | 29         | 164                | 64         | 170                | 74         | 146               | 100        | 856              | 68         |
| 3 to 6 months                       | 82                | 20         | 33                      | 15         | 69                 | 27         | 52                 | 23         | 0                 | 0          | 236              | 19         |
| 6 to 12 months                      | 10                | 2          | 44                      | 21         | 25                 | 10         | 7                  | 3          | 0                 | 0          | 86               | 7          |
| 12 months or more                   | 1                 | 0          | 74                      | 35         | 0                  | 0          | 2                  | 1          | 0                 | 0          | 77               | 6          |

Source: AUD1 Survey

<sup>1</sup> Incomplete waiting times refer to patients who have been referred to the Audiology Department who have not yet been fitted with their aid. Waiting times in this case are counted from the date referral in received until the end of the quarter.

<sup>2</sup> An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 31 December 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 31 March 2007 includes information for this hospital.

## *Additional Information*

For **further information** on Hearing Aid Assessment / Re-Assessments carried out in Northern Ireland, please contact:

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