



Hearing Aid Assessments and Re-assessments during quarter ending 30 September 2006

28 June 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 30 September 2006. 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 ¹

Patients Fitted:

- 3,209 patients were fitted with a digital hearing aid or analogue hearing aid during the quarter ending 30 September 2006, 2,880 digital hearing aids and 329 analogue hearing aids.
- Of the 3,209 patients fitted during the quarter, over half (1,765) were new patients.
- The Eastern HSS Board had the highest number of patients fitted with hearing aids during the quarter (1,596), 773 in the Southern Board, 498 in the Western Board, and 342 in the Northern Board.
- During the quarter, 1,237 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:

- 1,750 new and 1,398 existing patients were assessed for hearing aids during the quarter ending 30 September 2006. Of these, 44 adults were assessed as unsuitable for a hearing aid.

¹ An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006.

Cost of Hearing Aids:

- Information on the total and average cost of aids issued in the Northern Board was incomplete. As a consequence, information on the number of aids issued and the total cost of aids provided by the Northern Board has been excluded from analysis of average cost by aid type.
- During the quarter ending 30 September 2006, 4,690 aids² were issued across the four Boards at a cost of £348,900.

Complaints Received:

- No complaints were reported by Audiology Departments in Northern Ireland during quarter ending 30 September 2006.

Completed Waiting Times:

- 3,067 patients had their hearing aid assessment / re-assessment³ completed during the quarter ending 30 September 2006.
- Of these 3,067 patients, 62% had been waiting less than 3 months from referral to Audiology Department until the aid was fitted, 19% waited 3 to 6 months, 15% waited 6 to 12 months, and 3% waited 12 months or more.

Incomplete Waiting Times:

- At 30 September 2006, 2,007 patients were waiting for their hearing aid assessment / re-assessment⁴ to be completed.
- The highest proportion (46%) of these patients were waiting less than 3 months, 27% for 3 to 6 months, 17% for 6 to 12 months, and 10% for 12 months or more.

¹ An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006.

² Figures detail the number and total cost of aids issued for all 4 Boards. However, as stated above information on the total cost of aids issued in the Northern Board is for adult digital hearing aids only.

³ 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.

⁴ 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

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 30 September 2006, 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:

Symbol	Meaning
-	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^{1,2}

	numbers										percentage
	EHSSB		NHSSB		SHSSB		WHSSB		Northern Ireland		% Change since last quarter
	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	
Total Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid During the Quarter											
All Patients Fitted	1,596	1,699	342	428	773	762	498	422	3,209	3,311	-3%
Digital Hearing Aid	1,380	1,504	333	421	742	740	425	399	2,880	3,064	-6%
Analogue Hearing Aid	216	195	9	7	31	22	73	23	329	247	33%
Child Patients Fitted	8	9	5	7	15	17	3	1	31	34	-9%
Digital Hearing Aid	8	7	5	7	15	17	3	1	31	32	-3%
Analogue Hearing Aid	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-100%
Adult Patients Fitted	1,588	1,690	337	421	758	745	495	421	3,178	3,277	-3%
Digital Hearing Aid	1,372	1,497	328	414	727	723	422	398	2,849	3,032	-6%
Analogue Hearing Aid	216	193	9	7	31	22	73	23	329	245	34%
New Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid											
New Patients Fitted	821	893	249	316	489	436	206	168	1,765	1,813	-3%
Digital Hearing Aid	811	881	246	316	489	434	206	166	1,752	1,797	-3%
Analogue Hearing Aid	10	12	3	0	0	2	0	2	13	16	-19%
New Child Patients Fitted	8	4	2	7	13	16	3	1	26	28	-7%
Digital Hearing Aid	8	4	2	7	13	16	3	1	26	28	-7%
Analogue Hearing Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
New Adult Patients Fitted	813	889	247	309	476	420	203	167	1,739	1,785	-3%
Digital Hearing Aid	803	877	244	309	476	418	203	165	1,726	1,769	-2%
Analogue Hearing Aid	10	12	3	0	0	2	0	2	13	16	-19%
Existing Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid											
Existing Patients Fitted	775	806	93	112	284	326	292	254	1,444	1,498	-4%
Digital Hearing Aid	569	623	87	105	253	306	219	233	1,128	1,267	-11%
Analogue Hearing Aid	206	183	6	7	31	20	73	21	316	231	37%
Existing Child Patients Fitted	0	5	3	0	2	1	0	0	5	6	-17%
Digital Hearing Aid	0	3	3	0	2	1	0	0	5	4	25%
Analogue Hearing Aid	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-100%
Existing Adult Patients Fitted	775	801	90	112	282	325	292	254	1,439	1,492	-4%
Digital Hearing Aid	569	620	84	105	251	305	219	233	1,123	1,263	-11%
Analogue Hearing Aid	206	181	6	7	31	20	73	21	316	229	38%
Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements 1											
Patients Issued with Replacements 1	395	391	546	587	175	93	121	60	1,237	1,131	9%
Child Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements	45	22	19	26	17	20	8	3	89	71	25%
Adult Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements	350	369	527	561	158	73	113	57	1,148	1,060	8%

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

² 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 and Patient Type ¹

	numbers										percentage
	EHSSB		NHSSB		SHSSB		WHSSB		Northern Ireland		% Change since last quarter
	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	
All Patients Assessed											
All Patients Assessed	1,451	1,560	609	559	643	635	445	337	3,148	3,091	2%
All Adults Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid	1,442	1,553	607	555	631	618	443	334	3,123	3,060	2%
All Children Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid	9	7	2	4	12	17	2	3	25	31	-19%
New Patients Assessed											
New Patients Assessed	867	847	252	267	432	438	199	191	1,750	1,743	0%
Adult Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	852	833	248	263	387	411	197	186	1,684	1,693	-1%
Child Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	7	4	2	4	11	16	2	2	22	26	-15%
Adult Patients Assessed as Unsuitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	8	10	2	0	34	11	0	3	44	24	83%
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	860	843	250	263	421	422	197	189	1,728	1,717	1%
Total Child Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	7	4	2	4	11	16	2	2	22	26	-15%
Existing Patients Assessed											
Existing Patients Assessed	584	713	357	292	211	197	246	146	1,398	1,348	4%
Adult Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	582	710	357	292	210	196	246	145	1,395	1,343	4%
Child Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	2	3	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	5	-40%

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

Table B.1: Number of Aids Issued during Quarter, by Expenditure on these Aids^{1, 2}

	numbers										percentage
	EHSSB		NHSSB		SHSSB		WHSSB		Northern Ireland		% Change since last quarter
	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	
All Aids Issued											
Total Number of Aids Issued	2,039	2,115	888	1,015	1,165	967	598	634	4,690	4,731	-1%
Adults receiving Digital Hearing Aids	1,761	1,920	855	975	1,072	872	514	511	4,202	4,278	-2%
Adults receiving Analogue Hearing Aids	216	164	9	7	55	58	73	113	353	342	3%
Children receiving Digital Hearing Aids	62	29	24	33	38	37	11	10	135	109	24%
Children receiving Analogue Hearing Aids	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-100%
Total Cost of Aids Issued											
Total Cost of Aids Issued during Quarter (,000's)	£158.8	£142.4	£80.9	£89.2	£72.9	£65.8	£36.2	£40.9	£348.9	£338.3	-
Cost for Adult Digital Hearing Aids (,000's)	£139.3	£131.6	£80.9	£89.2	£67.3	£60.5	£31.6	£35.2	£319.2	£316.5	-
Cost for Adult Analogue Hearing Aids (,000's)	£8.9	£6.4	£0.0	£0.0	£2.7	£2.7	£3.8	£5.1	£15.5	£14.2	-
Cost for Child Digital Hearing Aids (,000's)	£10.5	£4.1	£0.0	£0.0	£2.9	£2.7	£0.8	£0.6	£14.2	£7.4	-
Cost for Child Analogue Hearing Aids (,000's)	£0.0	£0.3	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.3	-
Average Cost of Aids Issued											
Average Cost per Aid	£77.9	£67.3	n/a	£87.8	£62.6	£68.1	£60.6	£64.6	£70.5	£67.1	-
Average Cost of Adult Digital Hearing Aid	£79.1	£68.6	£94.6	£91.4	£62.8	£69.3	£61.5	£68.9	£76.0	£74.0	-
Average Cost of Adult Analogue Hearing Aid	£41.4	£39.0	£0.0	£0.0	£49.6	£46.4	£52.6	£45.5	£45.1	£42.5	-
Average Cost of Child Digital Hearing Aid	£169.7	£141.7	£0.0	£0.0	£76.0	£71.9	£70.9	£58.9	£127.9	£96.8	-
Average Cost of Child Analogue Hearing Aid	£0.0	£150.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	-	£150.0	-

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

² Information on the total and average cost of aids issued in the Northern Board was incomplete. As a consequence, information on the number of aids issued and the total cost of aids provided by the Northern Board has been excluded from Northern Ireland average cost by aid type.

Table C.1: Completed Waits for Hearing Aid Assessments and Re-Assessments During Quarter ending 30 September 2006 by HSS Board ^{1, 2}

	numbers										percentage
	EHSSB		NHSSB		SHSSB		WHSSB		Northern Ireland		% Change since last quarter
	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	
All Completed Waits	1,492	1,534	333	426	791	674	451	422	3,067	3,056	0%
Less than 3 months	1,074	870	333	421	156	129	350	79	1,913	1,499	28%
3 to 6 months	236	218	0	5	349	254	0	267	585	744	-21%
6 to 12 months	173	336	0	0	197	156	101	76	471	568	-17%
12 months or more	9	110	0	0	89	135	0	0	98	245	-60%
Completed Waits for Children	6	19	5	7	7	11	3	1	21	38	-45%
Less than 3 months	6	19	5	7	3	9	3	1	17	36	-53%
3 to 6 months	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	4	2	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	-
Completed Waits for Adults	1,486	1,515	328	419	784	663	448	421	3,046	3,018	1%
Less than 3 months	1,068	851	328	414	153	120	347	78	1,896	1,463	30%
3 to 6 months	236	218	0	5	345	252	0	267	581	742	-22%
6 to 12 months	173	336	0	0	197	156	101	76	471	568	-17%
12 months or more	9	110	0	0	89	135	0	0	98	245	-60%

Source: AUD1 Survey

Table C.2: Board Analysis of Completed Waits for Hearing Aid Assessments and Re-Assessments During Quarter ending 30 September 2006 ^{1, 2}

	numbers									
	EHSSB		NHSSB		SHSSB		WHSSB		Northern Ireland	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
All Completed Waits	1,492	100	333	100	791	100	451	100	3,067	100
Less than 3 months	1,074	72	333	100	156	20	350	78	1,913	62
3 to 6 months	236	16	0	0	349	44	0	0	585	19
6 to 12 months	173	12	0	0	197	25	101	22	471	15
12 months or more	9	1	0	0	89	11	0	0	98	3
Completed Waits for Children	6	100	5	100	7	100	3	100	21	100
Less than 3 months	6	100	5	100	3	43	3	100	17	81
3 to 6 months	0	-	0	-	4	57	0	-	4	19
6 to 12 months	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
12 months or more	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
Completed Waits for Adults	1,486	100	328	100	784	100	448	100	3,046	100
Less than 3 months	1,068	72	328	100	153	20	347	77	1,896	62
3 to 6 months	236	16	0	0	345	44	0	0	581	19
6 to 12 months	173	12	0	0	197	25	101	23	471	15
12 months or more	9	1	0	0	89	11	0	0	98	3

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ 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.

² An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

Table C.3: Incomplete Waits for a Hearing Aid Assessment / Re-Assessment at 30 September 2006 by HSS Board^{1, 2}

	numbers										percentage
	EHSSB		NHSSB		SHSSB		WHSSB		Northern Ireland		% Change since last quarter
	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	
All Incomplete Waits	519	792	718	723	475	847	295	352	2,007	2,714	-26%
Less than 3 months	338	462	160	117	231	332	204	137	933	1,048	-11%
3 to 6 months	160	179	146	184	174	320	56	128	536	811	-34%
6 to 12 months	18	147	240	209	44	177	35	87	337	620	-46%
12 months or more	3	4	172	213	26	18	0	0	201	235	-14%
Incomplete Waits for Children	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-
Less than 3 months	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-
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	-
Incomplete Waits for Adults	518	792	718	723	475	847	295	352	2,006	2,714	-26%
Less than 3 months	337	462	160	117	231	332	204	137	932	1,048	-11%
3 to 6 months	160	179	146	184	174	320	56	128	536	811	-34%
6 to 12 months	18	147	240	209	44	177	35	87	337	620	-46%
12 months or more	3	4	172	213	26	18	0	0	201	235	-14%

Source: AUD1 Survey

Table C.4: Board Analysis of Incomplete Waits for a Hearing Aid Assessment / Re-Assessment at 30 September 2006^{1, 2}

	numbers									
	EHSSB		NHSSB		SHSSB		WHSSB		Northern Ireland	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
All Incomplete Waits	519	100	718	100	475	100	295	100	2,007	100
Less than 3 months	338	65	160	22	231	49	204	69	933	46
3 to 6 months	160	31	146	20	174	37	56	19	536	27
6 to 12 months	18	3	240	33	44	9	35	12	337	17
12 months or more	3	1	172	24	26	5	0	0	201	10
Incomplete Waits for Children	1	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	100
Less than 3 months	1	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	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	-
Incomplete Waits for Adults	518	100	718	100	475	100	295	100	2,006	100
Less than 3 months	337	65	160	22	231	49	204	69	932	46
3 to 6 months	160	31	146	20	174	37	56	19	536	27
6 to 12 months	18	3	240	33	44	9	35	12	337	17
12 months or more	3	1	172	24	26	5	0	0	201	10

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ 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.

² An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Patients Fitted with Hearing Aids during Quarter, by HSC Trust, Type of Aid and Patient Type ^{1, 2}

	numbers												percentage
	Belfast HSC Trust		South Eastern HSC Trust		Northern HSC Trust		Southern HSC Trust		Western HSC Trust		Northern Ireland		% Change since last quarter
	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	
Total Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid During the Quarter													
All Patients Fitted	868	862	728	837	342	428	773	762	498	422	3,209	3,311	-3%
Digital Hearing Aid	804	789	576	715	333	421	742	740	425	399	2,880	3,064	-6%
Analogue Hearing Aid	64	73	152	122	9	7	31	22	73	23	329	247	33%
Child Patients Fitted	4	9	4	0	5	7	15	17	3	1	31	34	-9%
Digital Hearing Aid	4	7	4	0	5	7	15	17	3	1	31	32	-3%
Analogue Hearing Aid	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-100%
Adult Patients Fitted	864	853	724	837	337	421	758	745	495	421	3,178	3,277	-3%
Digital Hearing Aid	800	782	572	715	328	414	727	723	422	398	2,849	3,032	-6%
Analogue Hearing Aid	64	71	152	122	9	7	31	22	73	23	329	245	34%
New Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid													
New Patients Fitted	465	428	356	465	249	316	489	436	206	168	1,765	1,813	-3%
Digital Hearing Aid	465	428	346	453	246	316	489	434	206	166	1,752	1,797	-3%
Analogue Hearing Aid	0	0	10	12	3	0	0	2	0	2	13	16	-19%
New Child Patients Fitted	4	4	4	0	2	7	13	16	3	1	26	28	-7%
Digital Hearing Aid	4	4	4	0	2	7	13	16	3	1	26	28	-7%
Analogue Hearing Aid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
New Adult Patients Fitted	461	424	352	465	247	309	476	420	203	167	1,739	1,785	-3%
Digital Hearing Aid	461	424	342	453	244	309	476	418	203	165	1,726	1,769	-2%
Analogue Hearing Aid	0	0	10	12	3	0	0	2	0	2	13	16	-19%
Existing Patients Fitted with a Hearing Aid													
Existing Patients Fitted	403	434	372	372	93	112	284	326	292	254	1,444	1,498	-4%
Digital Hearing Aid	339	361	230	262	87	105	253	306	219	233	1,128	1,267	-11%
Analogue Hearing Aid	64	73	142	110	6	7	31	20	73	21	316	231	37%
Existing Child Patients Fitted	0	5	0	0	3	0	2	1	0	0	5	6	-17%
Digital Hearing Aid	0	3	0	0	3	0	2	1	0	0	5	4	25%
Analogue Hearing Aid	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-100%
Existing Adult Patients Fitted	403	429	372	372	90	112	282	325	292	254	1,439	1,492	-4%
Digital Hearing Aid	339	358	230	262	84	105	251	305	219	233	1,123	1,263	-11%
Analogue Hearing Aid	64	71	142	110	6	7	31	20	73	21	316	229	38%
Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements ¹													
Patients Issued with Replacements ¹	228	155	167	236	546	587	175	93	121	60	1,237	1,131	9%
Child Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements	42	12	3	10	19	26	17	20	8	3	89	71	25%
Adult Patients Fitted with Digital Hearing Aid Replacements	186	143	164	226	527	561	158	73	113	57	1,148	1,060	8%

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ 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.

² An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

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

	numbers												percentage
	Belfast HSC Trust		South Eastern HSC Trust		Northern HSC Trust		Southern HSC Trust		Western HSC Trust		Northern Ireland		% Change since last quarter
	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	
All Patients Assessed													
All Patients Assessed	875	828	576	732	609	559	643	635	445	337	3,148	3,091	2%
All Adults Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid	870	821	572	732	607	555	631	618	443	334	3,123	3,060	2%
All Children Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid	5	7	4	0	2	4	12	17	2	3	25	31	-19%
New Patients Assessed													
New Patients Assessed	523	390	344	457	252	267	432	438	199	191	1,750	1,743	0%
Adult Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	510	376	342	457	248	263	387	411	197	186	1,684	1,693	-1%
Child Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	5	4	2	0	2	4	11	16	2	2	22	26	-15%
Adult Patients Assessed as Unsuitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	8	10	0	0	2	0	34	11	0	3	44	24	83%
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	518	386	342	457	250	263	421	422	197	189	1,728	1,717	1%
Total Child Patients Assessed for a Digital Hearing Aid	5	4	2	0	2	4	11	16	2	2	22	26	-15%
Existing Patients Assessed													
Existing Patients Assessed	352	438	232	275	357	292	211	197	246	146	1,398	1,348	4%
Adult Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	352	435	230	275	357	292	210	196	246	145	1,395	1,343	4%
Child Patients Assessed as Suitable for a Digital Hearing Aid	0	3	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	3	5	-40%

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

Appendix 3: Number of Aids Issued during Quarter, by HSC Trust and Expenditure on these Aids ^{1, 2}

	numbers												percentage
	Belfast HSC Trust		South Eastern HSC Trust		Northern HSC Trust		Southern HSC Trust		Western HSC Trust		Northern Ireland		% Change since last quarter
	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	
All Aids Issued													
Total Number of Aids Issued	1,135	1,042	904	1,073	888	1,015	1,165	967	598	634	4,690	4,731	-1%
Adults receiving Digital Hearing Aids	1,025	950	736	970	855	975	1,072	872	514	511	4,202	4,278	-2%
Adults receiving Analogue Hearing Aids	64	71	152	93	9	7	55	58	73	113	353	342	3%
Children receiving Digital Hearing Aids	46	19	16	10	24	33	38	37	11	10	135	109	24%
Children receiving Analogue Hearing Aids	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-100%
Total Cost of Aids Issued													
Total Cost of Aids Issued during Quarter (,000's)	£78.2	£67.2	£80.6	£75.3	£80.9	£89.2	£72.9	£65.8	£36.2	£40.9	£348.9	£338.3	-
Cost for Adult Digital Hearing Aids (,000's)	£71.2	£63.1	£68.1	£68.6	£80.9	£89.2	£67.3	£60.5	£31.6	£35.2	£319.2	£316.5	-
Cost for Adult Analogue Hearing Aids (,000's)	£1.6	£2.1	£7.3	£4.3	£0.0	£0.0	£2.7	£2.7	£3.8	£5.1	£15.5	£14.2	-
Cost for Child Digital Hearing Aids (,000's)	£5.3	£1.7	£5.2	£2.4	£0.0	£0.0	£2.9	£2.7	£0.8	£0.6	£14.2	£7.4	-
Cost for Child Analogue Hearing Aids (,000's)	£0.0	£0.3	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.3	-
Average Cost of Aids Issued													
Average Cost per Aid	£68.9	£64.5	£89.1	£70.2	£91.1	£87.8	£62.6	£68.1	£60.6	£64.6	£70.5	£67.1	-
Average Cost of Adult Digital Hearing Aid	£69.5	£66.4	£92.5	£70.7	£94.6	£91.4	£62.8	£69.3	£61.5	£68.9	£76.0	£74.0	-
Average Cost of Adult Analogue Hearing Aid	£25.6	£29.5	£48.0	£46.2	£0.0	£0.0	£49.6	£46.4	£52.6	£45.5	£45.1	£42.5	-
Average Cost of Child Digital Hearing Aid	£115.7	£90.0	£325.0	£240.0	£0.0	£0.0	£76.0	£71.9	£70.9	£58.9	£127.9	£96.8	-
Average Cost of Child Analogue Hearing Aid	£0.0	£150.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	£0.0	-	£150.0	-

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ Information on the total and average cost of aids issued in the Northern Board was incomplete. As a consequence, information on the number of aids issued and the total cost of aids provided by the Northern Board has been excluded from Northern Ireland average cost by aid type.

² An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

Appendix 4: Completed Waits for Hearing Aid Assessments and Re-Assessments During Quarter ending 30 September 2006 by HSC Trust^{1, 2}

											numbers		percentage
	Belfast HSC Trust		South Eastern HSC Trust		Northern HSC Trust		Southern HSC Trust		Western HSC Trust		Northern Ireland		% Change since last quarter
	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	
All Completed Waits	881	802	611	732	333	426	791	674	451	422	3,067	3,056	0%
Less than 3 months	737	576	337	294	333	421	156	129	350	79	1,913	1,499	28%
3 to 6 months	79	75	157	143	0	5	349	254	0	267	585	744	-21%
6 to 12 months	56	84	117	252	0	0	197	156	101	76	471	568	-17%
12 months or more	9	67	0	43	0	0	89	135	0	0	98	245	-60%
Completed Waits for Children	4	19	2	0	5	7	7	11	3	1	21	38	-45%
Less than 3 months	4	19	2	0	5	7	3	9	3	1	17	36	-53%
3 to 6 months	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	4	2	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	-
Completed Waits for Adults	877	783	609	732	328	419	784	663	448	421	3,046	3,018	1%
Less than 3 months	733	557	335	294	328	414	153	120	347	78	1896	1463	30%
3 to 6 months	79	75	157	143	0	5	345	252	0	267	581	742	-22%
6 to 12 months	56	84	117	252	0	0	197	156	101	76	471	568	-17%
12 months or more	9	67	0	43	0	0	89	135	0	0	98	245	-60%

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ 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.

² An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

Appendix 5: HSC Trust Analysis of Completed Waits for Hearing Aid Assessments and Re-Assessments During Quarter ending 30 September 2006^{1, 2}

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	%
All Completed Waits	881	100	611	100	333	100	791	100	451	100	3,067	100
Less than 3 months	737	84	337	55	333	100	156	20	350	78	1,913	62
3 to 6 months	79	9	157	26	0	0	349	44	0	0	585	19
6 to 12 months	56	6	117	19	0	0	197	25	101	22	471	15
12 months or more	9	1	0	0	0	0	89	11	0	0	98	3
Completed Waits for Children	4	100	2	100	5	100	7	100	3	100	21	100
Less than 3 months	4	100	2	100	5	100	3	43	3	100	17	81
3 to 6 months	0	-	0	-	0	-	4	57	0	-	4	19
6 to 12 months	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
12 months or more	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-
Completed Waits for Adults	877	100	609	100	328	100	784	100	448	100	3,046	100
Less than 3 months	733	84	335	55	328	100	153	20	347	77	1,896	62
3 to 6 months	79	9	157	26	0	0	345	44	0	0	581	19
6 to 12 months	56	6	117	19	0	0	197	25	101	23	471	15
12 months or more	9	1	0	0	0	0	89	11	0	0	98	3

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ 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.

² An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

Appendix 6: Patients Waiting for a Hearing Aid Assessment / Re-Assessment to be Completed at 30 September 2006 by HSC Trust^{1, 2}

	numbers												percentage
	Belfast HSC Trust		South Eastern HSC Trust		Northern HSC Trust		Southern HSC Trust		Western HSC Trust		Northern Ireland		% Change since last quarter
	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	Sep-06	Jun-06	
All Incomplete Waits	355	435	164	357	718	0	475	847	295	352	2,007	2,714	-26%
Less than 3 months	278	273	60	189	160	117	231	332	204	137	933	1,048	-11%
3 to 6 months	65	95	95	84	146	184	174	320	56	128	536	811	-34%
6 to 12 months	9	63	9	84	240	209	44	177	35	87	337	620	-46%
12 months or more	3	4	0	0	172	213	26	18	0	0	201	235	-14%
Incomplete Waits for Children	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-
Less than 3 months	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-
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	-
Incomplete Waits for Adults	354	435	164	357	718	723	475	847	295	352	2,006	2,714	-26%
Less than 3 months	277	273	60	189	160	117	231	332	204	137	932	1,048	-11%
3 to 6 months	65	95	95	84	146	184	174	320	56	128	536	811	-34%
6 to 12 months	9	63	9	84	240	209	44	177	35	87	337	620	-46%
12 months or more	3	4	0	0	172	213	26	18	0	0	201	235	-14%

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ 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.

² An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 includes information for this hospital.

Appendix 7: HSC Trust Analysis of Patients Waiting for a Hearing Aid Assessment / Re-Assessment to be Completed at 30 September 2006^{1, 2}

	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	%
All Completed Waits	355	100	164	100	718	100	475	100	295	100	2,007	100
Less than 3 months	278	78	60	37	160	22	231	49	204	69	933	46
3 to 6 months	65	18	95	58	146	20	174	37	56	19	536	27
6 to 12 months	9	3	9	5	240	33	44	9	35	12	337	17
12 months or more	3	1	0	0	172	24	26	5	0	0	201	10
Completed Waits for Children	1	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	100
Less than 3 months	1	100	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	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	-
Completed Waits for Adults	354	100	164	100	718	100	475	100	295	100	2,006	100
Less than 3 months	277	78	60	37	160	22	231	49	204	69	932	46
3 to 6 months	65	18	95	58	146	20	174	37	56	19	536	27
6 to 12 months	9	3	9	5	240	33	44	9	35	12	337	17
12 months or more	3	1	0	0	172	24	26	5	0	0	201	10

Source: AUD1 Survey

¹ 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.

² An information return was not provided for Downe Hospital for quarter ending 30 September 2006; although, information detailed for quarter ending 30 June 2006 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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