
Working in audiology

Audiology careers

A career in audiology is a fantastic opportunity to combine a scientific approach with patient focused care.

An audiologist assesses hearing and/or balance disorders, recommending and providing appropriate rehabilitation and management. Fully trained audiologists have a substantial knowledge about hearing, acoustics and balance enabling them to solve technical problems and develop logical alternatives. In their rehabilitative role audiologists fit and adjust hearing aids, advise on assistive listening devices such as amplified telephones, and provide auditory training, hearing tactics and counselling. This requires a good understanding of the effect of the hearing problem on the patient's daily life to provide appropriate information, support and counselling.

Many audiologists develop a special interest and expertise in one area of audiology for example paediatric testing. Experienced audiologists often have managerial responsibilities for local audiology services and supervision of training audiologists. Audiologists are part of a multidisciplinary team working alongside doctors, nurses, teachers of the deaf, speech and language therapists, physiotherapists, social workers, lip reading teachers, and others responsible for the care of the patient, as well as administrative and clerical staff. Most audiologists work in a hospital however others work as private dispensers, as researchers at universities, or audiology device and equipment companies.

Professionally, the career structure in audiology has seen dramatic changes over the past decade. Currently an audiology team might comprise audiologists, audiological scientists and hearing therapists, however these separate professions are being amalgamated into a common career pathway through the new Modernising Scientific Careers programme. The current entry route into audiology is either via a 3 year undergraduate course or a 3 year postgraduate programme.

For those interested in a career in audiology: links to other websites

- [British Academy of Audiology](#)
- [British Society of Audiology](#)

- NHS careers
- UCAS

Both training positions and posts for qualified staff within Addenbrooke's audiology department are advertised on the Trust recruitment pages and NHS recruitment site.

- Working for us
- NHS Jobs

Volunteering

Each year, 700 volunteers give up their free time on a regular basis to help patients throughout Addenbrooke's. These volunteers providing an invaluable service helping us make life easier for both our patients and their families, by supporting our staff in providing a direct service to patients, or by helping out behind the scenes. All prospective volunteers need to complete the online enquiry form to receive an application pack, which provides an overview of all the volunteer opportunities available at Addenbrooke's and an application form.

- Volunteering

There are many hearing help organisations both nationally and locally which rely on the support of volunteers. Addenbrooke's audiology department works closely with one such charity Cambridgeshire Hearing Help (CHH). CHH aims to spread information about the problems of hearing impairment and to help people with acquired deafness. CHH work is carried out by volunteers who hold local hearing help sessions providing free batteries and hearing aid care for NHS hearing aid users, advice on hearing loss, the best use of hearing aids and environmental equipment.

If you would like to become a volunteer for CHH please visit their website:

Cambridgeshire Hearing Help