

PA5 Tests



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APR (Auropalpebral Reflex)

Short description: The Auropalpebral Reflex is a startle reflex of the eyelid elicited by relatively strong sounds, approximately 80 - 100 dB SPL (PA5 is calibrated in dB HL).

The test can be performed on neonates from the day of birth and it is not based on co-operation with the newborn child. Other responses than the APR can be arousal from sleep, crying or diminished activity.

Purpose: Obtaining an impression of the hearing status together with other screening tests.

Work area: Screening

Free Field Audiometry / Visual Reinforcement Audiometry (VRA)

Short description: Free field audiometry is a behavioral audiometric test typically obtained in a sound-treated room. Through two calibrated loudspeakers various sounds are presented to a patient (i.e. children on parents lap). The objective is to elicit a physical response (eye-shifts & head turns) toward the speaker presenting the stimulus and then reward the reaction with visual stimuli (mechanical toy, lights, video screen etc.).

Purpose: The purpose of free field audiometry is to establish or estimate the hearing sensitivity at various frequencies. Note: Free field testing gives an audiogram only for the better hearing ear when ear differences are present.

Conditioned Orientation Reflex (COR)

The Pediatric Audiometer PA5 can perform Conditioned Orientation Audiometry based on a technique described by Suzuki and Ogiba (1961). The phenomenon called "Orientation Reflex" is not a learned response, but a natural reflex movement elicited by sound or visual stimulation.

If the visual stimulation elicits a reflex which is conditioned by a tone, the child will look towards the visual stimulation, e.g. flashing light, as soon as the tone is heard. If the conditioning is effective the child will look in the direction of the sound source even before the visual stimulation is presented. The COR method requires cooperation from the child.

Purpose: Obtaining an impression of the hearing status together with other screening tests.

Work area: Screening