

# **Introduction to Audiometry testing for Occupational Health setting**

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Audiometry in the workplace assess the effect of workplace noise on the individual with the purpose to early diagnosis and management of hearing loss due to noise. Occupational screening audiometry is an important tool in the arsenal of Occupational health and Safety practitioners. Occupational screening audiometry is a legal requirement for all employees who are exposed to noise at or above 85dB (Republic of South Africa, 1993). The majority of Occupational health nurse professionals require a good skill and competence in performing audiometry in the workplace that form part their additional qualifications in Occupational health. The knowledge acquisition related to audiometry testing theory and processes, allows them to feel equipped with knowledge and skills needed for a qualified Occupational health nurse. Most Occupational Health nurse post-graduate programmes entail spirometry/audiometry. It is therefore vital that the student is supported with the acquisition of adequate and sufficient spirometry testing knowledge, in preparation for their Occupational Health nurse journey. The recent transitioning of courses and programmes within the tertiary environment onto the various higher levels of the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), has made it more necessary for students and aspiring students to equip themselves with knowledge that will allow for this transition. The Short Course in audiometry has been structured and positioned to close this gap.

## **TARGET AUDIENCE**

For nurses that want to bridge the learning gap from a Junior/Undergraduate degree to Occupational Health Nursing qualification (NQF8)

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

After attending the course, the participants will be able to demonstrate general understanding to: Implement audiometric testing, interpret, evaluate and report on pure tone audiometric screening and conduct audiometric testing that complies with current established occupational standards (Republic of South Africa, 2007).

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Competence in this course will enable the student to:

- Prepare the client for an audiometric test
- Conduct a pure tone audiometric screening test on a client
- Interpret, evaluate, record and report the audiometric screening test results.

## DELIVERY METHOD

This initiative developed and run by the Department of Nursing allows candidates to engage and participate in arrange of activities to enrich and support their spirometry knowledge and learning. Sessions can include guest presenters on particular topics of interest, discussions around key spirometry areas, practical demonstration and practical exercises. The course will be run over 4 study day periods to be facilitated at weekly (weekly intervals).

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Course applicants must possess matric certificate or its equivalent as a minimum qualification and relevant experience in different fields including: occupational nursing

## DURATION

Structured lecture discussions/theory sessions of the course Short Course in audiometry will be offered over four (4) study days in 8-hour sessions weekly. This means that the student will attend this online course, one (1) day every week. Students will also be required to present work that was done on the previous week to fellow students and prepare for spot test weekly.

The duration of each study day/session will be from 08h00-16h00.

## ENQUIRY CONTACT

- **Application enquiries / bookings:** / Ms. Philiswa Dlamini. Tel: 031-373 6017, [philiswad@dut.ac.za](mailto:philiswad@dut.ac.za) / Ms. Mantobeko Dlamini. Tel: 031-373 2606, [CynthiaD1@dut.ac.za](mailto:CynthiaD1@dut.ac.za)
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