

**WAC 296-817-40020 Review audiograms that indicate a standard threshold shift.** (1) You must make sure the health care professional supervising audiograms has:

(a) A copy of this chapter;

(b) The baseline audiogram and most recent audiogram of the employee to be evaluated;

(c) Background noise level records for the testing room;

(d) Calibration records for the audiometer.

(2) You must obtain an opinion from the health care professional supervising audiograms as to whether the audiograms indicate possible occupational hearing loss and any recommendations for changes in hearing protection.

(3) You must pay for any clinical audiological evaluation or otological examination required by the reviewer, if:

(a) Additional review is necessary to evaluate the cause of hearing loss; or

(b) If there is indication of a medical condition of the ear caused or aggravated by the wearing of hearing protectors.

(4) You must inform the employee in writing of the existence of a standard threshold shift within twenty-one calendar days of the determination.

(5) You must make arrangements for the reviewer to communicate to the employee any suspected medical conditions that are found unrelated to your workplace. This information is confidential and must be handled appropriately.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050. WSR 15-23-086, § 296-817-40020, filed 11/17/15, effective 12/18/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, and 49.17.060. WSR 03-11-060, § 296-817-40020, filed 5/19/03, effective 8/1/03.]