

Appendix A

Referral to Physician

The patient/client **must** be referred to a physician for medical clearance in each of the following instances (Ontario Medical Association – Red Flag List):

1. Asymmetric sensorineural hearing loss (>10 dB PTA and/or discrimination score difference>12%)
2. History of injury to ear or head
3. History of weakness of the face
4. Prior history of ear surgery, excluding myringotomy
5. History of drainage from the ear within the previous 90 days
6. History of dizziness or vertigo
7. Pain or discomfort in the ear within the previous 30 days
8. A significant change in hearing within the previous 90 days (>10 dB or 12 % change in discrimination score)
9. Audiometric air-bone gap equal to or greater than 15 decibels at 500 Hz, 1000 Hz and 2000 Hz
10. Age of 18 years or younger
11. Visible deformity of the ear (including perforation of the tympanic membrane)
12. Unilateral tinnitus
13. History of hearing loss in the family (other than age-related)
14. History of exposure to ototoxic drugs
15. History of meningitis
16. Suspicion of exaggerated hearing loss
17. History of exposure to loud noise
18. Excessive cerumen (wax) or a foreign body in the ear canal
19. Any person that the hearing health care professional feels should be seen by a physician