



Audiology Services

at Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare

About Our Audiology Services

Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare offers audiology services to meet the needs of children and teenagers who have disabilities or complex medical conditions.

Although hearing loss occurs on its own, it also is associated with numerous medical complications and syndromes. Some factors that increase the risk of hearing loss include:

- Cleft lip and palate
- Congenital cytomegalovirus (CMV) infection
- Down syndrome
- Family history of hearing loss
- Meningitis
- Neurodevelopmental delays
- Prolonged use of mechanical ventilation devices
- Traumatic brain injury

Gillette's on-site audiology services enable us to provide timely care to inpatients and outpatients who need hearing evaluations. To minimize the effect of hearing loss on a child's communication ability and overall development, it's important to diagnose hearing loss as early as possible.

On the Cover

By making hearing tests a game, audiologist Analise Ludwig puts children such as Liliana at ease during examinations.

Evaluations and Tests

Gillette performs the following hearing evaluations for patients of all ages and ability levels.

Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) Testing

ABR is useful in evaluating patients who cannot provide a reliable behavioral response. The test provides information about the function of the auditory system. Electrodes on a patient's head measure signals generated by portions of the auditory system while patients sleep or are sedated.

Conditioned Play Audiometry

The test evaluates frequency-specific hearing sensitivity in a manner appropriate for children. The hearing test is made into a game. For example, children drop a block into a bucket each time they hear a sound.

Otoacoustic Emissions Testing

The test evaluates the health of the cochlea by means of a small earphone, which sends sound into the ear. If the inner ear is healthy, we can measure a response or echo.

Tympanometry

This test provides information about the health of the middle ear. First, we examine the ear canal to make sure there is a clear path to the eardrum. Next, we place a device in the ear that changes

air pressure inside the ear, making the eardrum vibrate. A machine records the movements on graphs called tympanograms.

Visual Reinforcement Audiometry

The test evaluates frequency-specific hearing sensitivity. Light-up toys and videos reinforce a child's head-turn response to a sound.

Next Steps

If a hearing loss is discovered, we develop an appropriate treatment plan. When necessary, we refer patients to an ear, nose and throat (ENT) specialist for further medical evaluation.

Information and Referrals

For more information about Gillette's audiology services, call Analise Ludwig at 651-578-5040. To schedule an appointment or refer a patient, call:

- 651-290-8707
- 800-719-4040 (toll-free)
- 651-229-3928 (TDD)

Find out more about our audiology services at
www.gillettechildrens.org.



Gillette's new audiology suite can accommodate children who use wheelchairs. The room also has space for children, like Sofia, who want a parent to be with them during tests.

About Our Audiologist

Analise Ludwig, Au.D., provides services at Gillette's St. Paul (main) campus. She earned her degree and a certificate in disability policy and service at the University of Minnesota.

Ludwig has worked in a local preschool program for children who are deaf or hard of hearing; she also has clinical experience in pediatric settings. She offers traditional hearing assessments in Gillette's audiology suite and ABR evaluations at a patient's bedside, in surgery or in procedure rooms while patients are sedated.

Our Mission

Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare provides specialized health care for people who have short-term or long-term disabilities that began during childhood. We help children, adults and their families improve their health, achieve greater well-being and enjoy life.



Gillette Children's

Specialty Healthcare

St. Paul (Main) Campus
200 University Ave. E.
St. Paul, MN 55101
651-291-2848
800-719-4040 (toll-free)

Maple Grove Clinic
9550 Upland Ln. N.
Maple Grove, MN 55369
763-496-6000
888-218-0642 (toll-free)

Burnsville Clinic
305 E. Nicollet Blvd.
Burnsville, MN 55337
952-223-3400
866-881-7386 (toll-free)

Minnetonka Clinic
6060 Clearwater Dr.
Minnetonka, MN 55343
952-936-0977
800-277-1250 (toll-free)

Duluth Clinic
Lakewalk Center
1420 London Rd.
Duluth, MN 55805
218-728-6160
800-903-7111 (toll-free)

Willmar Clinic
Lakeland Health Center
502 2nd St. S.W.
Willmar, MN 56201
651-634-1938
800-578-4266 (toll-free)

Mobile Outreach Clinic
For locations and schedules:
651-634-1938
800-578-4266 (toll-free)
www.gillettechildrens.org



Gillette Lifetime

Specialty Healthcare

St. Paul – Phalen Clinic
435 Phalen Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55130
651-636-9443
800-578-4266 (toll-free)

www.gillettechildrens.org