

MA1 Pure tone Audiometer Evaluation

Evaluator: Terry Foust, AuD., FAAA, CCC-A/SLP
 Date: September 28, 2011

Evaluation type: Desktop review
 Clinical review (screening >30 children)
 Teaching and observing lay screener use equipment
 Rating – 5 points each category for total possible score of 50

Desktop Review Criteria	Criteria Grading (0-5 points)	Description/Comments
1. Appropriate for ages 3-4 years of age and all others that can be appropriately screened with pure tone audiometry. a. Must include 500, 1000, 2000, and 4000 Hz b. Must go up to minimum of 50 db HL (need loud enough presentation levels to condition and provide reference tones to child) c. Must go as low as 15 db or more for screening levels within normal limits	Yes - 5 Yes Yes Yes	
2. Menu's easy to navigate with few button pushes to get to main screener page	Yes - 5	No menus to navigate – ready to screen and present stimulus as soon as turned on. It has a super user friendly push button interface that makes it very easy to manipulate the stimulus intensity and frequency. <i>Suggestion</i> – an indicator that lets you know where you were – when stimulus goes off – nothing to remind you where you were with frequency and intensity
5. Cord long enough to have work room with moving child	Yes - 4	Sufficient length – also not as necessary with older kids

6. Power supply – can be used without needing to be plugged in (electrical outlets not always easily available)	Yes - 5	Powered by 2 AA batteries
7. Power saving options	Yes - 3	Like a lot of other equipment - shuts self off after specified time of inactivity
Total Desktop Score	22/25	
Clinical Evaluation Criteria		
Number of Children screened:	40	
Ages:	24 – 48 months	
1. Can be operated with one hand (leaving the other free to work with the child, write etc.)	Yes - 5	Easily fits in palm of hand and easily operated with one hand
2. Easily hidden from child’s view to avoid observation of presentations and false positive responses	Yes - 5	Size is a real plus! The smallest audiometer I have used – small enough to fit right in the palm of the screener’s hand - no bigger than a remote control!
3. Easily used/manipulated by lay screener	Yes - 5	<p>a. Trained Head Start Health Services Coordinator. Learned equipment in one on one session easily – the challenge was learning to get consistent reliable responses and to correctly interpret observations etc.</p> <p>b. Very nice to just be able to pick it up and move with it to the next child/room and not have to be limited by electrical access and have to bring the children to the screener – can bring the screener to the child (keeping acoustic levels etc. appropriate)</p>
4. Can the equipment be used out of the box by a person new to it (no training or manuals)	Yes – 4-5	a. I (Terry Foust) used it this way and gave it to a lay screener with no instruction on how to use it initially and rated its eas

		of use out of 5. b. For reference most equipment rarely rates a 3 with me initially.
5. Cost and time efficient?	Yes - 4	a. Time – nothing to pack and set up (find electrical outlets, open up, set levels etc.) b. Cost – quick orientation, no real time needed to instruct in use of machine (only real training is what is required for any pure tone screening – ability to condition required responses and have good reliable observation skills, ability to bracket and get to threshold or lowest screening level quickly etc.) c. Only reason it got a “4” is that I do not know the purchase cost for the MA1
Total Clinical Evaluation Score	24/25	
Total Score	46/50	
Overall Rating	Excellent!	Would recommend for lay screeners and programs such as Head Start

Only issue was the presentation stimulus locked to one side at the end of the evaluation period – while both right and left light displayed correctly when changing ears – the stimulus was locked and always came out of the same headphone – would not switch. Sent back with it working this way.