

## Services at Falls of Sound:

- Hearing assessments
- Hearing aids
- Counselling related to hearing impairment and tinnitus
- Noise earplugs, swimming plus, Musicians plugs
- Assistive listening devices.
- Central Auditory Processing Disorder Tests

## Listen up!

### Did you know that:

**The most common causes of hearing impairments are *noise* and *ageing***

***Tinnitus* is more common in people over the age of 40 than in younger people.**

## Inside

Greeting from our staff,  
Grace and Jesse

What is commonwealth  
Hearing Program?

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## Introducing our staff

### Grace Lee, Audiologist

Grace became a part of the Falls of Sound team in June, 2004. Since graduating from the University of Queensland with a Master of Audiology, she has been working for a Hearing aid manufacturer and private hearing clinics over 4 years.

"I really enjoy being an audiologist. The best part of my work is counseling people with their hearing difficulties and seeing them leaving the door with a smile on their faces. And I am happy to join Falls of Sound which provides a wide range of audiological services, serving both children and adults."



### Jessica Helton, Receptionist

Hi, my name is Jessica Helton and I am the receptionist here at Falls of Sound.

I have been working as a receptionist here for over two months and it has been excellent. I have grown up with a deaf household. Being the only hearing person in my family was hard as I had responsibility of translating for my parents such as translating (sign language) phone calls for mum.

My family was born deaf due to the history of hearing loss in my mum's family. My dad turned deaf at the age of three from meningitis and I was just lucky. I have a hearing impairment in my left ear and it may deteriorate as I get older. With my family history I can better understand the people with hearing loss. And working here gives me a great opportunity to help them.



## What is Commonwealth Hearing Services Program ?

If your patients have a hearing loss, a **Commonwealth Government Program** administered by the **Office of Hearing Services** may be able to help your patients to gain access to hearing services.

Eligible people can obtain help by applying to the Office of Hearing Services for a hearing services voucher. The following services are available, free of charge, under this program:

- 🔊 Hearing assessment;
- 🔊 Hearing rehabilitation; and selection; and
- 🔊 fitting of hearing aids (if necessary).

In addition, eligible people can obtain maintenance of their hearing aids and devices and a regular supply of batteries on payment of a small annual maintenance fee.

## What is Commonwealth Hearing Services Program ? (Continued)

### Who is Eligible?

A person who is an Australian Citizen or permanent resident 21 years or older is eligible to apply for a voucher:

- ☞ A Pensioner Concession Card Holder;
- ☞ Receiving Sickness Allowance from Centrelink;
- ☞ The holder of a Gold Repatriation Health Card issued for all conditions;
- ☞ The holder of a White Repatriation Health Cards issued for conditions that include hearing loss;
- ☞ A dependent of a person in one of the above categories;
- ☞ A member of the Australian Defense Force; or
- ☞ Undergoing a vocational rehabilitation program with the CRS Australia and you are referred by your case manager.



**For more information on application or to receive a application form, contact Falls of Sound.**

## Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD) Part 1

**CAPD** is used to describe a deficit in the perception or complete analysis of auditory information due to central auditory nervous system dysfunction, usually at the level of the cerebral cortex. The evaluation and management of CAPD is within and is an accepted clinical activity within the scope of audiology practice.

A person with auditory processing problems has difficulty in the reception and interpretation of auditory information in the absence of a hearing loss. He may hear the sound loud enough but not understand the message, and therefore act like he cannot hear.

The following list is some of symptoms to look for in children with CAPD. These are areas that a teacher or parent could begin to look at to obtain some information about the child's listening behaviour.

- ☞ Does the child appear puzzled by some auditory information and say "huh" or "what" often?
- ☞ Does the child have difficulty staying on task and completing an assignment or project?
- ☞ Does the child respond fairly well in quiet situations, but have great difficulty listening in noisy situations? (eg. With TV on or in a noisy classroom).
- ☞ Does the child have difficulty remembering what is heard such as names, stories, numbers, multiple directions?
- ☞ Does the child often confuse directions or words and think something else was said?
- ☞ Does the child have difficulty keeping information heard in the correct sequence?
- ☞ Does respond to very simple instructions, but not to more complex instructions?
- ☞ Is the child easily distracted and appear to have a short attention span?



**Falls of Sound provides Central Auditory Processing Disorder tests.**

The Part II of CAPD will have information on CAPD assessment and test protocols