



MAKING A CLAIM FOR HEARING LOSS

Noise-induced hearing loss is a preventable condition.

WorkplaceNL

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What should you know?

In noisy environments, within and outside of the workplace, it is important that hearing protection be worn to limit exposure to hazardous noise levels. This will help prevent noise-induced hearing loss, as well as prevent progression in those who already have a degree of hearing loss. If you suffer from hearing loss, and feel this may be related to exposure to hazardous noise levels at your workplace, this information is important to you.

Where can I go to get my hearing checked?

To be considered by WorkplaceNL for hearing loss, an assessment must be performed by a registered audiologist, who is a health care professional trained to identify and measure hearing impairment and related disorders.

You do not need a referral from a doctor to make an appointment. However, depending on where you live in the province, the wait time for an appointment with an audiologist may vary. The cost of this assessment may be covered by WorkplaceNL.

How do I file a claim for hearing loss?

You must complete a Worker's Report of Hearing Loss (Form 6 HL) which may be obtained from WorkplaceNL or online. The application will be reviewed by WorkplaceNL if it is made within five years of the last exposure to hazardous noise.

If there are exceptional circumstances, this information should be included as part of the application. An audiogram and an audiologist report will also be required, and submitted to WorkplaceNL by the audiologist performing your assessment.

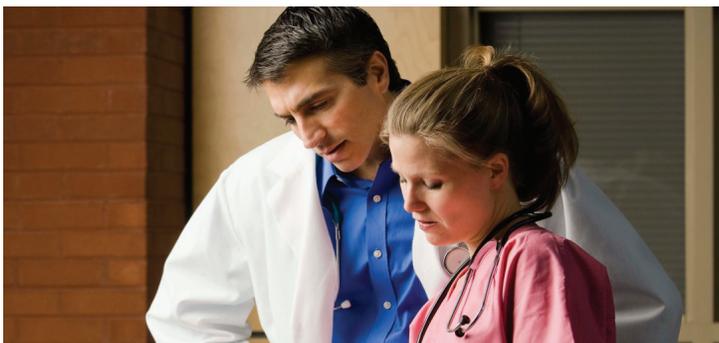
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If you are currently employed, you should notify your employer that you are filing a hearing loss-related claim. If you are no longer employed, you will need to contact and gather information from your previous employers regarding your work history. Once your work history and audiogram are received, your claim will be reviewed for entitlement.

Will I need to see a medical specialist?

Depending on the results of your assessment by the audiologist, you may be required to see an ear, nose and throat specialist. You will be notified by WorkplaceNL if necessary and asked to see your family doctor to arrange a referral.



How will I know if my claim has been accepted?

Once we receive all the necessary information, your claim will be reviewed and you will be notified in writing as to whether it has been accepted. If your claim is accepted, coverage may include:

- travel to the nearest hearing aid provider
- hearing aids (from a WorkplaceNL-approved list of providers)
- replacement batteries (arranged directly through contact with WorkplaceNL)

A list of hearing aid providers can be obtained from WorkplaceNL.

Remember:

You must complete a Worker's Report of Hearing Loss (Form 6 HL) which may be obtained from WorkplaceNL or online: www.whscc.nl.ca/forms.whscc

The cost of this assessment may be covered by WorkplaceNL. Contact us or visit our website for a list of audiologists: www.whscc.nl.ca/healthcare/HC_AudiologistsNL.whscc

What is a Permanent Functional Impairment award?

As part of your hearing loss claim, you may also be entitled to a Permanent Functional Impairment award. You will be notified of this when you are informed as to whether your claim has been accepted. Since noise-induced hearing loss does not progress once you are removed from hazardous noise, it is important that you wear hearing protection, both at work and outside the workplace to help prevent further hearing loss.

Community Resource

Canadian Hard of Hearing Association
– Newfoundland and Labrador

The CHHA-NL provides support and services to those with hearing loss.

t 1.888.753.3224
w chha-nl.ca

Contact us

WorkplaceNL **t** 1.800.563.9000 **w** workplacenl.ca

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