



**EAR·NOSE·THROAT
SPECIALISTS**
of Northern Virginia, P.C.

**PROFESSIONAL
HEARING SERVICES**
*The Dizziness and Balance Center
The Hearing Aid Center*

OTOACOUSTIC EMISSIONS (OAE)

You have been scheduled for an Otoacoustic Emission (OAE) examination by your physician. The exam is used to test the health of the inner ear hair cells. It can be used for a hearing screening in infants, or to help determine the site of lesion for an adult with hearing loss or tinnitus.

Otoacoustic emissions are low-level sounds recorded from the ear, caused by motion of the eardrum in response to vibrations from deep within the cochlea (the organ of hearing). Low level stimuli, such as a click or tone, are presented to the ear using an ear level probe which contains a small earphone and microphone. The microphone will measure the response. A healthy cochlea creates internal vibrations whenever it processes sound. An impaired cochlea usually does not.

There are no other special instructions for this examination and you may resume your normal activities immediately following the procedure. If you have any questions regarding this information or about scheduling your appointment, please call our office at 703.644.7800.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR PEDIATRIC TESTING:

The OAE procedure is best accomplished while your child is restful or asleep. It is recommended that you do NOT allow your child to nap prior to the test. You can plan to feed your child at the appointment as it will help to facilitate sleep. If there is any fluid in your child's ears, we cannot do the OAE examination. It is recommended that you have your child's pediatrician check the ears prior to this appointment.