NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND CONSUMER SERVICES
MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION DIVISION
Raleigh, North Carolina

Steve Troxler, Commissioner

MPID NOTICE	**16-25**	**9-19-2025**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR OBTAINING AUDIOGRAMS

I. PURPOSE

This document is issued to ensure agency compliance with OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.95 by minimizing impact to employees' hearing from exposure to excessive noise levels. Included in this document are instructions for MPID employees who require baseline audiograms and annual hearing tests.

II. REFERENCES

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services: Hearing Conservation Program, OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.95

III. CANCELLATION

MPID Notice 2-11, dated 1-31-11

IV. PROCEDURE

The Area Supervisor or qualified designee shall record noise measurements in each establishment in the Area at a frequency of at least once per calendar year and whenever new equipment is put in use in an establishment. These measurements shall be posted prominently on the wall of the Inspector's office or workspace. All MPID Employees are required to wear hearing protection when they are in an area on an inspected establishment's premises where noise levels are 85 decibels or higher.

The Hearing Conservation Program of the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) includes all employees exposed to noise levels per the attached OSHA Table G-16. Area Supervisors shall determine which inspection assignments are subject to the hearing conservation program. The current employees holding those inspection assignments shall be recorded on the supervisor's quarterly Safety by Objectives Report.

Baseline Audiograms – A valid baseline audiogram shall be established for each employee exposed to noise at or above 50% daily noise dose (DND) and use for comparison with subsequent audiograms. This baseline can be obtained:

Before hiring or assignment to a job at which employee exposure has been identified to

be at or above 50% DND (known as a preplacement audiogram) OR

Within 6 months of an employee's first exposure at or above the noise levels and exposure times listed in OSHA Table G-16.

Testing should be preceded by **14 hours** without exposure to workplace noise. The employee should also be advised to avoid high levels of non-occupational noise exposure for the 14 hours preceding the test.

Area Supervisors are responsible for ensuring all inspectors requiring an annual audiogram in their area receive an annual audiogram between September 1 and October 30 of each calendar year.

The Raleigh Office has compiled the attached list of audiologists who have agreed to bill our Agency. These are the only audiologists that MPID employees should use. Each participating audiologist will be provided a copy of the NCDA&CS' Hearing Conservation Policy.

When making appointments for hearing testing and evaluation, it is imperative to remind the audiologist to send a copy of the hearing test results, including an interpretation of those results, to the NCDA & CS Meat & Poultry Inspection Division, 1001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699- 1001. The envelope should be marked "CONFIDENTIAL" and sent to the attention of Sharmila Logendran. MPID Employees should take the attached Memorandum to Audiologists with them to their appointment.

Audiology appointments will be paid by p-card over the phone by either Sabrina Iczkovits or Laura Zefiretto. Once an appointment is scheduled, the employee should notify their supervisor, Sabrina Iczkovits, Laura Zefiretto and Sharmila Logendran of the time, date, and location of the appointment. When the employee arrives for the appointment, they should call Sabrina or Laura who will provide a credit card number over the phone to the audiologist's representative for payment.

Any questions on this matter should be directed to Sharmila Logendran or Dr. Karen Beck.

ATTACHMENTS: List of participating Audiologists
Memorandum to Audiologists

Dr. Karen Beck
State Director

DISTRIBUTION:	**SUBJECT CATEGORY:**
MPID In-Plant, Supervisory, Veterinary, and Office Personnel	Safety

OSHA's Table G-16 – Permissible Noise Exposures

Length of Time: Hours / Day	Noise Level in Decibels
8	90
6	92
4	95
2	100
1.5	102
1	105
.5	110
.25 or less	115

The following audiologists have agreed to provide hearing testing for NCDA Meat and Poultry Inspection Personnel:

Area 1

Pardee Urgent Care
212 A. Thompson Street
Hendersonville, NC 28792
(828) 697-3232

Area 2

UNC ENT at Cary
115 Kildaire Park Drive, Suite 308
Cary, NC 27518
(984) 974-6484

Alamance ENT
3940 Arrowhead Blvd, #210
Mebane, NC 27302
(919) 563-9705

Area 3

UNC ENT at Goldsboro
2707 Medical Office Place
Goldsboro, NC 27534
(919) 735-9146

The Hearing Center, Inc.
2413 Robeson Street #2
Fayetteville, NC 28305
(910) 323-2616

Area 4

Hearing Services (Tuesday mornings only)
114 Morlake Drive; Suite 101A
Mooresville, NC 28117
(704) 872-1670
Call Statesville office to make appointments

Area 5

Medac
4402 Shipyard Blvd.
Wilmington, NC 28403
(910) 452-7000
Long Leaf Shopping Center behind Rite Aid

Area 6

Kinston Head & Neck Physicians
Jim Dooling, M.S. FAAA Doctor's Drive
Kinston, NC 28501
(252) 523-0687

Area 7

Bright Audiology & Speech, Inc.
211 Carbonton Rd.
Sanford, NC 27330-0000
(919) 774-3277

Area 8

Alamance ENT
4030 Oaks Professional Pkwy, Suite 201
Burlington, NC 27215
(336) 226-0660

Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist
ENT and Associates - Greensboro
1132 N Church St #200
Greensboro, NC 27401
(336) 379-9445

Area 9

Hearing Services
703 Bryant Street
Statesville, NC 28677
(704) 872-1670

Hearing Services (Thursday only)
Medical Plaza
1919 W. Park Drive
Wilkesboro, NC 28697
(704) 872-1670
Call Statesville office to make appointments

Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Meat and Poultry Inspection Division

Christina L. Waggett
Assistant Commissioner
for Consumer Protection

Dr. Karen Beck
Director

September 17, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Audiologists Participating in NCDA&CS MPID Hearing Conservation Program

FROM: Dr. Karen Beck, State Director

SUBJECT: Annual Hearing Testing for Meat and Poultry Inspection Personnel

Thank you for agreeing to perform audiograms for NCDA&CS Meat and Poultry Inspection Division personnel. If this is our employee's first visit for a hearing testing, please conduct a baseline audiogram. If this employee has had an audiogram at your practice previously, please conduct a hearing test to determine if there has been a standard threshold shift when compared to the baseline audiogram. Please send a copy of your invoice and the audiogram results in a confidential envelope addressed to:

Ms. Sharmila Logendran
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
Meat and Poultry Inspection Division
1001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1001

All Meat and Poultry Inspection personnel have been issued credentials that they can show upon request. If you need to verify their employment with our agency, or if you have any questions, please call Ms. Sharmila Logendran at 919-707-3180.

We appreciate your help in providing this important service for our personnel.