

Mandatory Criteria for Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) Evaluation

Before booking a patient for APD testing, they must:

- be 7 years of age or older**
- be fluent in English or French
- be having difficulties in school or work environments
- have intelligible speech
- be able to understand simple instructions
- be able to repeat words / sentences
- have an intellectual potential that appears to be in the normal range
- not present with a diagnosis that could explain the difficulties encountered (e.g., ASD, global developmental delay, various syndromes, language disorder)
- not present with peripheral hearing impairment (e.g., diagnosed hearing loss, wearing a hearing aid, ear infections, etc.)
- present with some typical characteristics of APD based on screening and/or case history

Typical characteristics of APD

- Difficulty attending to and/or discriminating sounds
- Difficulty remembering and/or recognizing sounds
- Difficulty comprehending auditory information – may require extra time to process information
- Difficulty hearing if there is too much background noise
- Difficulty following conversations
- Difficulty following spoken instructions with many steps (complex directions)
- Difficulty with speech and/or language development
- Difficulty spelling, reading, and/or writing
- May get easily distracted or has difficulty maintaining concentration
- Seems to 'zone out' or is often in 'own little world'
- Poor listening skills and/or may get tired after listening for long periods of time
- Academic performance does not correspond to learning potential
- Improved performance in one-on-one situations