

# New Vestibular (inner ear balance) screening for children



There is now a large body of research indicating that best practice for ***all children with hearing loss*** is to include a vestibular screening assessment, considering “**Vestibular end organ dysfunction occurred in half of all children with profound SNHL**” in Cushing et al’s research.

Although we believe ***all children with hearing loss*** should be assessed, signs that heighten suspicion of dysfunction include:

- Infants not sitting by 7.25 months, or walking by 14.5 months
- Difficulty reading
- Parents reporting their child is ‘clumsy’
- Children who avoid play equipment like swings, or climbing apparatuses
- Children undergoing Cochlear Implants require pre- & post-operative

**PAEDIATRIC ASSESSMENTS** will be conducted at Hornsby on Friday and Saturday. Appointment time: 1hr 30min.

Assessment includes:

**Oculomotor examination** in room light and with infra-red video goggles

**Vestibular Evoked Myogenic Potential** (cervical, air or bone conducted stimulus)

**Video Head Impulse Test** (if age appropriate)

**Balance assessment**

Where appropriate a **Home Exercise Program** will be individualised to address the assessment findings. This will be progressed and revised.



**The good news is that early intervention works!**  
**Call us on 9482 4511 to book with one of our experienced Physio’s**



**On-Balance Physiotherapy**  
Vestibular, Balance and Neurological Rehabilitation