

# A Course for Healthcare Assistants/Assistant Practitioners working in Primary Care and their mentors

## PHILOSOPHY

The role of the Healthcare Assistant/ Assistant Practitioner in primary care may involve providing basic ear care, including irrigation

This course is designed to ensure that those Assistants who are expected to irrigate are able to do so confidently and safely

The course provides knowledge and practical guidance, which, together with mentorship in situ, should enable Healthcare Assistants/ Assistant Practitioners to fulfil their extended role

Please note – following the course the student will require practical supervision by a suitable mentor who has received training in ear care. The mentor must be identified, and approved, prior to commencing the course and must attend the first day of this course

## COURSE CONTENT

The course consists of two taught days, followed by three months of practical experience

During this time, a mentor is required to provide support and supervision in order to complete a programme of clinical competence

Participants will be expected to have studied a pre-course pack on basic anatomy and physiology, prior to starting the course

### DAY 1

**Students and their mentors will study the first part of Day 1 together**

9.30 am	Introduction to the Course
10.30 am	Coffee/Tea
10.45 am	Anatomy and Physiology
11.30 am	Common ear problems including hearing loss
12.30 pm	Lunch
1.15 pm	Introduction to otoscopy and the video otoscope
2.00 pm	Theory of irrigation and demonstration + practice on a dummy head
3.00 pm	Coffee/Tea

3.15 pm	<b>Mentors only:</b> Introduction to mentoring and delegation
3.15 pm	<b>HCA's only:</b> Documentation
3.30 pm	Hearing aids and tinnitus
4.30 pm	Close
<b>DAY 2</b>	
<b>Healthcare Assistants /Assistant practitioners only</b>	
9.30 am	Theory of Irrigation
10.30 am	Coffee/Tea
10.45 am	Decontamination of equipment
11.30 am	Written assessment
12.30 pm	Lunch
1.30 pm	Results of written assessment and individual oral discussion
3.30 pm	Conclusion and Evaluation
4.00 pm	Close

Healthcare Assistants/ Assistant Practitioners are required to pass a written assessment and oral discussion

Following the course, in addition to the period of supervision by their mentor, the student is also required to write a case study involving irrigation and complete a programme of clinical competence

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Primary Ear Care & Audiology Services  
Rotherham Community Health Centre  
Greasbrough Road  
ROTHERHAM  
S60 1RY

Tel No: 01709 423207  
Fax No: 01709 423408

E-mail:- earcarecentre@rothgen.nhs.uk

**Please note** should there be insufficient numbers of students, Study Days will be cancelled and either an alternative date offered or a full refund made. A minimum of 10 days notice will be given. If, for any reason, you are forced to cancel your booking, a minimum of 10 days notice is required, or loss of part of the course fee will result

**Why not visit our website on:**  
[www.earcarecentre.com](http://www.earcarecentre.com)

**Highly Commended:** Innovation in your Speciality,  
Nursing Times Award 2009  
**Winners:** National Training Award 2006  
Primary Care Professional,  
Outstanding Achiever Award  
Health & Social Care Awards 2004

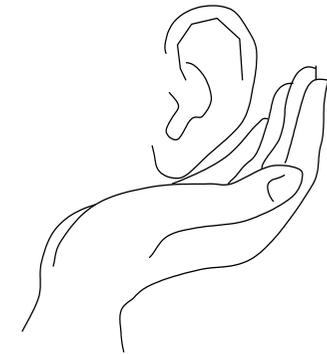
An **NHS** service

Participants will have:-

- a. an understanding of the basic anatomy and physiology of the ear
- b. an understanding of basic ear care
- c. a foundation of knowledge on which to base practical ear irrigation
- d. a foundation knowledge of otoscopy
- e. reflected on accountability and documentation
- f. an understanding that, during and following completion of the Course, they will undertake ear irrigation within appropriately delegated, monitored and supervised conditions and within the limits of their knowledge, skill and competence
- g. an understanding that, following the Course, ear irrigation will continue to be undertaken in accordance with the Ear Care Guidance Document

## PRIMARY EAR CARE & AUDIOLOGY SERVICES

### THE HEALTHCARE ASSISTANTS'/ASSISTANT PRACTITIONERS' COURSE



***A two day course in ear irrigation  
for Healthcare Assistants/  
Assistant Practitioners***

# MENTORING AND DELEGATION WORKSHOP FOR MENTORS OF HEALTHCARE ASSISTANTS/ASSISTANT PRACTITIONERS

## PROGRAMME

\*\* Students and their mentors will study together during the first part of the day

9.30 am	Introduction to the Course
10.30 am	Tea/Coffee
10.45 am	Anatomy and physiology
11.30 am	Common ear problems, including hearing loss
12.30 pm	Lunch
1.15 pm	Introduction to otoscopy and the video otoscope
2.00 pm	Theory of irrigation, demonstration and practice on a dummy head
3.00 pm	Tea/Coffee

3.15 pm	<b>Delegates will split into their separate groups at this point</b>
3.15 pm	Introduction to mentoring and delegation including accountability issues
4.30 pm	Close

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Participants will have:-

1. A revision of basic anatomy and physiology of the ear
2. An understanding of the prevention of ear problems
3. A revision of safe aural toilet and irrigation
4. Reflected on delegation
5. Considered the role of the mentor