

IOWA

Wendell Johnson Speech & Hearing Clinic Response to COVID-19 and Audiology Appointments



We greatly appreciate your patience while we were closed to in-person appointments over the past couple months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Your safety is important to us. Your hearing health is also important to us. We are now able to see patients who need urgent hearing or hearing aid care and will be taking extra precautions to keep you safe when you are in the clinic. The clinic will be thoroughly disinfected between patients. Clinicians will be wearing a mask and face shield during appointments. We ask that you come to your appointment alone, if possible. We will screen you for COVID-19 symptoms, take your temperature, and ask you to wash hands or use hand sanitizer upon entering the clinic. We also require that you wear a mask while in the clinic. If you have concerns about coming into the clinic, you can still receive hearing and hearing aid care through our drop-off services or consultation services via phone or email.

Contact Us!

Phone: 319-335-8736

Email: csd-audiologyclinic@uiowa.edu

For your general health and safety, follow CDC recommendations. Wash your hands, wear a cloth mask in public, and disinfect commonly touched surfaces - which include your hearing devices!

Clean your equipment daily with a disinfectant wipe. If possible, avoid alcohol-based wipes, which may break down the casing of your device. Take care when cleaning microphones and receivers, as excess moisture may damage these parts.

Having issues with your hearing devices at home? There are many online resources to help you problem-solve hearing aid malfunction at home.

Check out "Access Audiology", a website that demonstrates basic maintenance such as cleaning hearing aids, changing wax guards, and replacing batteries.

<https://www.access-audiology.com>

Do you find it difficult to talk on the phone? With Cochlear Americas, you can listen to a telephone recording and follow along with the provided transcript to better understand what you are hearing. <https://www.cochlear.com/us/communication-corner/program-intro/adult-telephone.htm>

Listening to Podcasts, Skype and Facetime, are also great ways to use your listening skills and keep in touch if you live alone.

Remember that you can be your own advocate! If you didn't hearing what a person said, ask them to repeat themselves and to speak up. Avoid stepping closer to the speaker and maintain the advised 6 feet of distance. You may ask the speaker to write down their message for clarity. If you have a remote microphone system, offer this to your speaker, and disinfect between uses!

If you are feeling isolated, take time to go on walks and spend time outside. For additional resources, check out the CDC website on stress and coping:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/managing-stress-anxiety.html>