

Useful Links

Balance and Mobility
www.balanceandmobility.com/patient_info

DeafHear
www.deafhear.ie

Deafness Research UK
www.deafnessresearch.org.uk

Dizziness and Balance:
www.dizziness-and-balance.com

Irish Academy of Audiology
www.iaoa.ie

Irish Deaf Society
www.irishdeafociety.ie

Ménière's Society
www.menieres.co.uk

Vestibular Disorders Association
<http://vestibular.org>



Contact Details

Phone: 01 854 5437

Fax: 01 805 6281

Email: audiology@mater.ie

Please leave a message and we will get back to you. Due to the large number of patients under our care the appointment line is extremely busy so please be patient and keep trying if you do not get through the first time.

Location and Directions

The Audiology Department is located in Outpatients Clinic 8, The Whitty Building. Enter the hospital via the new main entrance on North Circular Road and take the escalator / lift to Level 1 and follow signage for Clinic 8.

Address:

Audiology Department,
Outpatients Clinic 8,
The Whitty Building,
Mater Misericordiae University Hospital,
North Circular Road, Dublin 7.

Mater Misericordiae University Hospital



Balance Testing

The audiology department at the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital provides a wide range of diagnostic balance services. The state-of-the-art department is well equipped with sophisticated testing equipment; therefore our patients are offered comprehensive assessments to aid patient-centred treatments.

Balance Testing Procedures

How to prepare

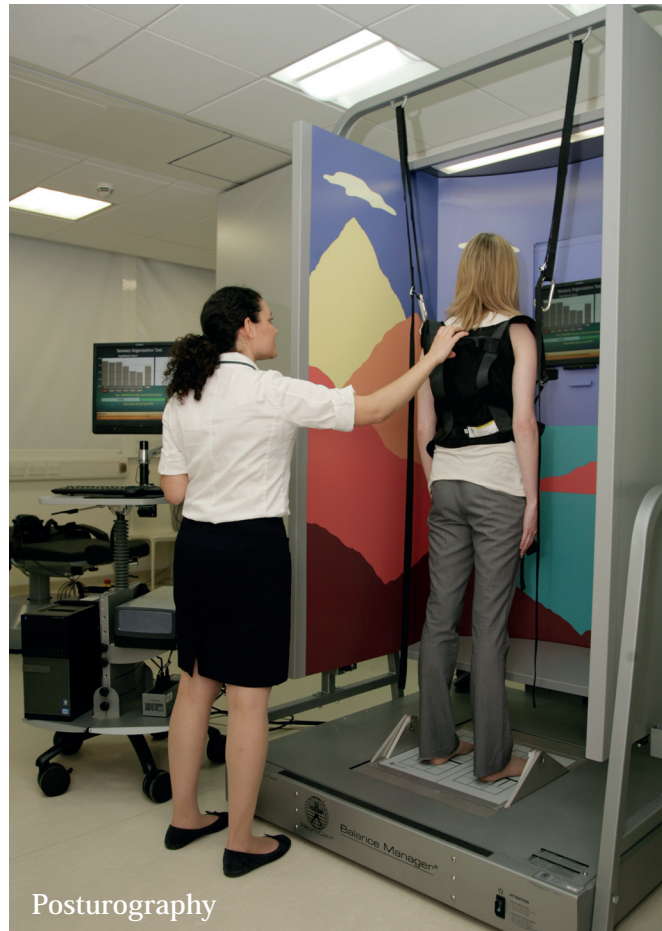
For all balance tests it is important that you do not consume any balance medication or alcohol for 48 hours before your appointment, as these may have an effect on the results. If you wear glasses or hearing aids, please bring them with you. Women are kindly asked not to put on eye make-up before balance tests.

Caloric Testing

Please ensure that your ears are free of wax before this appointment. During this test each ear is irrigated in turns with warm (44°C) and cold (30°C) water. The change in temperature causes a reaction from the balance mechanism in the inner ear that causes eye movements. The results are recorded automatically using sensors that are placed on either side of your eyes and your forehead or a set of special goggles. During the test you may get the sensation that you are moving, but this stops about 5 minutes following the irrigation. The test is performed in a dark room and it takes about an hour to complete. Please do not eat heavily before this test as it can cause nausea. If you are especially concerned, bring someone with you to the appointment.

Posturography (EquiTest)

This test assesses various aspects of your balance. It involves standing on a platform for approximately 15 minutes. During the test the platform or the surrounding screen may move. This is designed to reflect how you cope during your daily activities



Rotational Chair Testing

This test assesses different aspects of the balance system using a variety of tasks. It is carried out in a darkened room and you will be required to watch a light that moves in patterns or a stripy curtain moving around you. The motorised chair you are seated on will also rotate slowly. Like caloric testing, the results are recorded automatically using a set of special goggles. It takes about 45 minutes.

