



Lesson one: Introduction to personal remote microphone systems

Personal remote microphone systems assist people who use hearing aids or cochlear implants to hear words more clearly in difficult listening environments, which include:

- Noise
- Echo
- Distance.

Personal remote microphone systems send sounds directly to a person's hearing aids or cochlear implants. This makes the words of the person speaking louder and/or clearer when there is background noise, echo or distance. For example:

- When a teacher is speaking in a classroom
- In a lecture or presentation
- Following conversations in groups activities/social gatherings
- When a leader in a place of worship is speaking.

A personal remote microphone system includes a microphone transmitter and receiver.

The person speaks into a microphone transmitter which sends sounds wirelessly to the receiver.

The receiver is either built in or attached to each of the person's hearing aids or worn around their neck.



Personal remote microphone systems included on TAP

On TAP “personal remote microphone systems” is shortened to “remote microphone systems”.

TAP includes use of remote microphone systems for people who use behind-the-ear hearing aids. People with cochlear implants who may benefit from a remote microphone system have more complex needs and should be referred to an ear and hearing professional.

Microphone transmitter options

Clip on	Neck loop	Tabletop	Handheld

Receiver options

Built in	Ear level with or without audioshoe	Neck loop

Personal remote microphone systems not included on TAP

Sound field systems and loop systems are designed for group rather than individual use and are not included on TAP.

Lesson two: Providing personal remote microphone systems

It is important to assess if a person may benefit from a remote microphone system and to provide it using four steps: select, fit, use and follow up.

Difficulty hearing clearly in different environments

- If a person is having difficulty hearing clearly in quieter environments, carry out a hearing aid follow up.
- If a person's hearing aids are working well in quieter environments, ask questions to find out if they are regularly having difficulty hearing clearly in noisy environments or from a distance. If yes, a remote microphone system may assist.

Before selecting a remote microphone system, check that the person's hearing aids are compatible.

Step one: Select

Select the most suitable microphone transmitter for the environment/s where the person is experiencing difficulties.

The receiver for the remote microphone system depends on the type of hearing aid. Check which type of receiver is suitable for the person's hearing aids.

Step two: Fit

Before setting up the remote microphone system, check for any signs of damage.

1. Attach the receiver (if it is not built into the hearing aid)
2. Pair the microphone transmitter to the hearing aids
3. Check pairing is successful.

Step three: Use

Teach the person how to use the remote microphone system. Explain and demonstrate to the person:

- When to use
- The different parts
- How to connect
- How to charge or replace the battery.

Also explain how to look after the remote microphone system including how to clean and store safely.

Step four: Follow up

It takes time to adjust to using a remote microphone system. Follow up should be planned within a month. Encourage the person to return earlier if they experience any problems with their remote microphone system or hearing aids.

Follow up for a person using a remote microphone system will help you to find out if the person is benefitting from using it and check it is in good condition.

If the person is not using their remote microphone system or has problems using it, it is important to find out why. You can try to find a solution together.