

# Independent Audiologists Australia Inc

<https://independentaudiologists.net.au>

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<b>Fund</b>	Westfund Health Insurance
<b>Code</b>	WFD
<b>Address for Correspondence</b>	PO Box 235 Lithgow NSW 2790
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.westfund.com.au">http://www.westfund.com.au</a>

## EXTRAS COVER

<b>Audiology Description</b>		Hearing Aids and FM systems are combined in the device benefit. Ear and Eye Preventative Checks benefits include audiology, but cannot be Medicare claimable.		
<b>Schemes</b>	<b>Ultimate Extras</b>	<b>Advantage Pro Extras Esteem Extras</b>	<b>Advantage Extras</b>	<b>Essential Extras</b>
<b>Initial Consult</b>	\$80 under preventative health checks (audiology)	\$80 under preventative health checks (audiology)	\$80 under preventative health checks (audiology)	\$80 under preventative health checks (audiology)
<b>Device Limit (includes FM's)</b>	\$2,000	\$1,400	Not specified	Not specified
<b>Device Supply Cycle</b>	3 years	3 years	Not specified	Not specified

## Notes and Disclaimer - Check individual cover with the health fund.

1. Health funds listed at <https://www.privatehealth.gov.au/dynamic/insurer> . Extras information and Hospital cover accessed July 2021.
2. Information summarised in this table was accessed from each website.
3. Product brochures from Extras and hospital cover were downloaded from each site and information related to audiology and hearing devices was extracted.
4. IAA is not responsible for the accuracy of the information listed, which is intended as a guide only.
5. Accuracy of information is dependent on the information made available by the fund.

## HOSPITAL COVER

	Bronze Hospital	Basic Hospital	Gold Complete Hospital Silver Plus Assure Hospital Silver Hospital
<b>Initial</b>	Not cover implantation of hearing devices	Restricted to payment for public hospital room Will not fully cover the cost of a private room in a public hospital. Out-of-pocket costs may apply if admitted to a private hospital for restricted services.	Cover implantation of hearing devices
<b>Repair</b>			Not specified

**Sound Processor Upgrades / Replacements** do not require admission to hospital and fall outside of the benefit for implantation of hearing devices.

Replacements / upgrades will usually require pre-approval based on a clinical reason or evidence that a device is no longer working, is not repairable, and is out of warranty. Processors are not usually routinely replaced either because they are out of warranty or because newer products have become available.

The process for securing health fund cover for replacement or upgrades is as follows:

1. Download the request form from [https://www.ahsa.com.au/web/hospitals/ahsa\\_forms/speech](https://www.ahsa.com.au/web/hospitals/ahsa_forms/speech)
2. Audiologist completes the request form and provides supporting evidence of clinical benefit, supplier evidence that an aid cannot be repaired)
3. Email both the form and the evidence to: [enquiries@westfund.com.au](mailto:enquiries@westfund.com.au)  
Put the patient's fund membership number in the subject line, indicating this is an Exgratia Request.
4. The fund will provide a decision about whether they will fund replacement.
5. Once an approval notice has been issued by the fund, that notice and an order for replacement must be sent to the device supplier.
6. The device supplier will send out the replacement device to the audiologist.
7. The supplier will invoice the health fund directly.

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