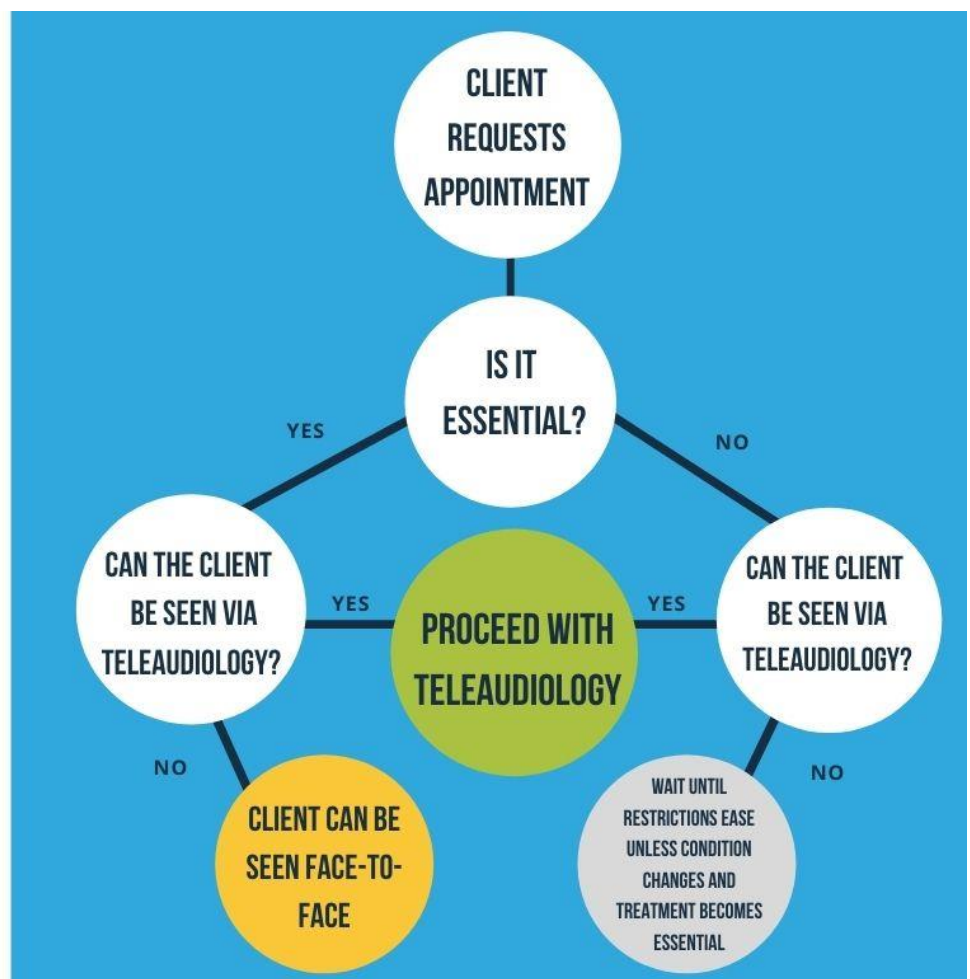


# AUDIOLOGY AUSTRALIA AUDIOLOGY APPOINTMENT DECISION TOOL

According to the DHHS, audiologists are permitted to provide services that prevent a significant change/deterioration in functional independence necessitating escalation of care (e.g. a requirement for specialist input/review, an increase in care needs and/or alternate accommodation, avoiding a hospital admission or emergency department presentation).

This tool will help you assess whether an appointment is essential, or whether it should be delayed or attended to via telehealth.

## AUDIOLOGY DECISION MAKING CHART IN STAGE 4



## WHAT IS ESSENTIAL?

In-line with this directive, Audiology Australia urges you to consider teleaudiology or rescheduling appointments until Stage 4 restrictions ease where possible; however, if in your clinical opinion, you believe:

- a six week delay would cause significant detriment to the patient's function, independence or quality of life, and/or
- a six week delay in treatment is likely to cause escalation in need for care, and/or
- a six week delay in treatment is likely to increase the risk of ED/medical presentation

Then you should consider the case urgent and essential and make a time to see the client face-to-face.

## CONSIDERATION FOR FACE-TO-FACE TREATMENT

- Ensure you are using appropriate PPE
- Ensure you are continuing with good hygiene practices
- Where possible adhere to social distancing

For further information about considerations when seeing clients, click [here](#).

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT:

[www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

[www.audiology.asn.au](http://www.audiology.asn.au)

You can also find information to Audiology Australia confirming the arrangements for audiologists during Stage 4 in Melbourne, [here](#).