

PROFILE OF AIDED LOUDNESS

Name: _____

Date: _____

Status: ___ unaided ___ previous hearing aids
 ___ current hearing aids

Instructions: Please rate the following items by both the level of loudness of the sound and by the appropriateness of that loudness level. For example, you might rate a particular sound as "Very Soft." If "Very Soft" is your preferred level for this sound, then you would rate your loudness satisfaction as "Just Right." If, on the other hand, you think the sound should be louder than "Very Soft", then your loudness satisfaction rating might be "Not Too Good" or "Not Good At All." The Loudness Satisfaction rating is not related to how pleasing the sound is to you, but rather, the appropriateness of the loudness. Here is an example:

The hum of a refrigerator motor:

Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- ② Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- ⑤ Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

In this example, the hearing aid user rated the loudness level of a refrigerator motor running as "Comfortable, but slightly soft" and rated his loudness satisfaction for this sound as "Just right." This satisfaction rating indicates that the person believes that it is appropriate for a refrigerator motor to sound "Comfortable, but slightly soft."

Circle the responses that best describe your listening experiences. If you have not experienced one of the sounds listed (or a similar sound), simply leave that question blank.

1. An electric razor:

Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

2. A door slamming:

Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

3. Your own breathing:

Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

4. Water boiling on the stove:

Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

5. A car's turn signal:

Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

6. The religious leader during the sermon:

Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

7. The dryer running:Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

8. You chewing soft food:Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

9. Listening to a marching band:Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

10. A barking dog:Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

11. A lawn mower:Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

12. A microwave buzzer sounding:Loudness rating

- 0 Do not hear
- 1 Very soft
- 2 Soft
- 3 Comfortable, but slightly soft
- 4 Comfortable
- 5 Comfortable, but slightly loud
- 6 Loud, but OK
- 7 Uncomfortably loud

Satisfaction rating

- 5. Just right
- 4. Pretty good
- 3. Okay
- 2. Not too good
- 1. Not good at all

Take an average score for soft, average, and loud sounds and compare the scores to the average scores of normally hearing individuals. The patient summary sheet is used for this type of scoring. In this manner, the clinician may compare unaided loudness perception to aided loudness perception as well as having a numeric target for the aided condition.

PATIENT SUMMARY
Profile of Aided Loudness (PAL)
Unaided Performance

Soft sounds	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q8	Category average
Loudness	___	___	___	___	___ (target = 2)
Satisfaction	___	___	___	___	___
Average sounds	Q1	Q6	Q7	Q12	Category average
Loudness	___	___	___	___	___ (target = 4)
Satisfaction	___	___	___	___	___
Loud sounds	Q2	Q9	Q10	Q11	Category average
Loudness	___	___	___	___	___ (target = 6)
Satisfaction	___	___	___	___	___

Aided Performance

Soft sounds	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q8	Category average
Loudness	___	___	___	___	___ (target = 2)
Satisfaction	___	___	___	___	___
Average sounds	Q1	Q6	Q7	Q12	Category average
Loudness	___	___	___	___	___ (target = 4)
Satisfaction	___	___	___	___	___
Loud sounds	Q2	Q9	Q10	Q11	Category average
Loudness	___	___	___	___	___ (target = 6)
Satisfaction	___	___	___	___	___