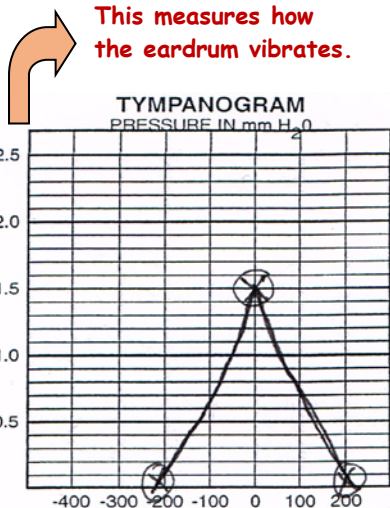


How to read a Hearing Test

This measures how the eardrum vibrates.



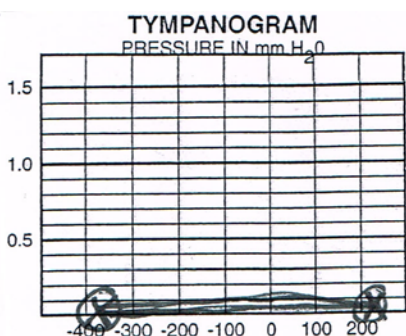
"Mountains" ✓

Means there is good airflow in the eustachian tube and into the middle ear

"Flat lines" _____

Means

1. There is fluid in the middle ear sticking to the eardrum not allowing it to vibrate ie -GLUE EAR or
2. There is a hole in the eardrum
3. There is a healthy grommet in the eardrum working well ✓



Tympanic Membrane (Ear Drum)

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Right = | ○ |
| Left = | ✕ |



Often this area will have these comments;

- Scarred** = has had many infections previously or previous grommets
- Perforation** = hole in the eardrum
- Dull** = an infection is probably starting or just finished
- Grommet Insitu** = has a current grommet still in place and working
- Retracted** = eardrum is sucked backwards onto the middle ear bones
- Type A Tymps** = mountains/ good air flow
- Type B Tymps** = fluid behind the ear drum, hole in the eardrum
- Type C Tymps** = negative pressure/eustachian tube dysfunction which can turn into middle ear fluid.

What is?

A tympanogram: This measures the air movement within the eardrum checking for blockages. This is the best test to have done to diagnose 'Glue Ear'.

An audiogram: This measures how well the child can hear. NORMAL hearing is up to 25 decibels. If you wear a pair of industrial earmuffs it is like having a 30 decibels hearing loss. This is commonly how children with otitis media will be hearing. They also have to contend with others talking around them at the same time.

Eustachian Tube Dysfunction is often written in the comment column especially with children under 8 years. This means that the child's hearing and or middle ear health can improve with regular nose blowing.

It is **very important** to remember that 1 good hearing test does not mean the child is ok for ever. It means that at the time of **THIS** test the child is hearing well. Up until age 9 years when the eustachian tube matures, a hearing test remains current for **ONLY 3 MONTHS**. Therefore it is recommended if the child is having speech, learning, and behaviour or hearing problems they should have regular testing every 3-4 months.



This measures sounds that can be heard.

