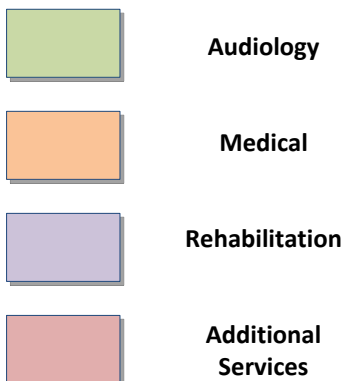
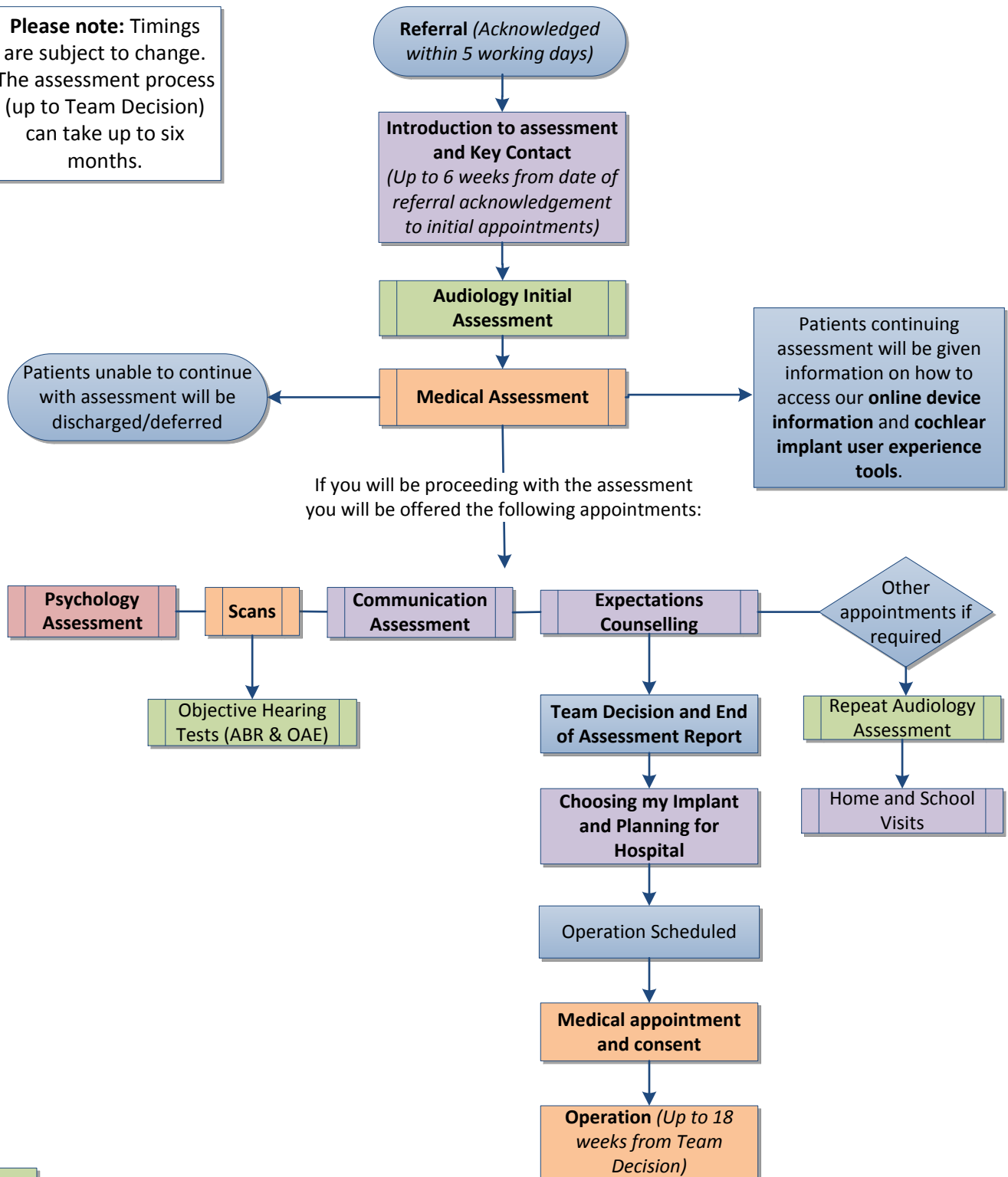


Schedule of Appointments for Children and Teenagers

Please note: Timings are subject to change. The assessment process (up to Team Decision) can take up to six months.



Description of Appointments

Introduction to Assessment/Key Contact - You will be given some information about what to expect during the assessment process and some information about cochlear implants.

Audiology Assessment - Your child will be seen by two of the centre Audiologists who will assess your child's hearing and any benefit they get from their hearing aids.

Medical Assessment - You will meet the surgeon who will ask you about your child's health and history. He will explain to you about the surgery and you can ask him any questions.

If you will be proceeding with the assessment you will be offered appointments in due course. These appointments will include:

Repeat Audiology Assessment - We may need to repeat the hearing tests if we do not get enough information.

Communication Assessment - Our rehabilitation staff will carry out some activities with the child to help us assess the benefit they might get from a cochlear implant. We will also make contact with your local Teacher of the Deaf and Speech and Language Therapist. If appropriate, we will also visit your child in school.

You will also be given information about how to access our **device information website** which will give you more information about the three different cochlear implant devices we offer. This will enable you to find out more about them and help you choose the right device for your child. You will also be given information about our **CI recipient experience website**. Here you will be able to see various video clips (these are also sub-titled and translated into BSL) of adults who have an implant and parents of children who have received an implant talk about their experiences. We encourage you to look at these websites since previous patients have found them very helpful.

Psychology Assessment - You may be given an appointment to meet our Clinical Psychologist, who will talk to you about any concerns that you have about your child having a cochlear implant. If appropriate, she may carry out some development assessments with your child.

Scans - These take place in the Day Ward at Southampton General Hospital and requested by the surgeon following your discussion at the initial visit. The hospital makes this appointment and will inform you directly. Your child will have a general anaesthetic and the scan and ABR (if it is needed) will be done at the same time.

ABR (Auditory Brainstem Response) - For the ABR the audiologist will attach some sticky pads to the child's head and present tones through headphones.

Expectations Counselling - At a later date, (after the scan results are received at the centre) you will be sent an appointment so that your Key Contact can discuss with you about how we, and you, feel an implant will be of benefit to the child and whether there are any possible limitations to benefit.

Team Decision - When the assessment is complete, and the surgeon has looked at the scans, we will have a Team Meeting where all the team will discuss the child's potential to benefit from an implant and a recommendation will be made. We will phone you that day, if at all possible.

Choosing my Implant and Planning for Hospital - This is the stage when you will choose which cochlear implant device you would like to choose for the child. Your Key Contact will also be able spend some time with you going through practical ideas on how to prepare for surgery and the period after that.

Operation - The operation will take place at one of five hospitals in Southampton and Portsmouth. The operation can take between 1.5 and 4 hours and usually requires an overnight stay.