

## **The Scope of Practice of a Newly Certified and BSHAA Registered Hearing Care Assistant**

**The Scope of Practice of Hearing Care Assistants is that for which an individual has to be trained and educated and then assessed as being competent to practise.**

**“Assessing, testing, prescribing....with a view to supply” are the protected functions of a Hearing Aid Dispenser and so limit delegation of those activities. Dispensers will, however, be able to involve an assistant in any other parts of the hearing care pathway – for which they are trained and competent.**

Hearing Care Assistants are supervised by HADs.

Within their scope of practice, they have transferable skills to perform the roles as outlined below.

### **Scope of Practice**

The central focus of the work of Hearing Care Assistants is to support and enhance the services provided by their supervising HADs to hearing impaired clients, their relatives or carers.

The fundamental scope of practice consists of:-

- Effective communication with clients and their relatives or carers.
- Provision of general, non-personalised information about currently available hearing aid systems and the professional services associated with their supply.
- Accurately recording: of client information contributing to a case history; and of client questionnaire responses.
- Performance of otoscopy.
- Advice on earwax management.
- Performance and recording of pure tone audiometry without masking in accordance with the current BSA recommended procedures and other agreed recommended procedures.
- Aural impressions taken in accordance with the current BSA and other agreed recommended procedures for the provision of earmoulds or other custom-made devices and ear fittings.
- Assisting RHADs in the fitting of hearing aid systems.
- Provision of general, non-personalised information about rehabilitation.
- Advice and provision of assistive technologies.
- Provision of post-fitting aftercare services.
- Recognition of when there is the need for advice and management from appropriately qualified professionals.
- The ability to work co-operatively with other professionals in health and social care management of individuals.

Hearing Care Assistants may perform all of the foregoing in a variety of centres and domiciliary locations.