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Aim: To assess feasibility of different brief CA approaches in hearing aid clinics across 2 sites, University College London Hospital (UCLH) and Southend University Hospital (SUH), and provision of tailored support for those identified with cognitive concerns, to optimise HA use.

- Patients ≥ 60 years without pre-existing dementia diagnosis attending HA assessment appointments were eligible
- Routine appointment times extended by 15 minutes
- Participants completed either the Test Your Memory (TYM) or Memory Checklist (MC) brief CA

CHECKLIST FOR MEMORY DIFFICULTIES IN AUDIOLOGY SERVICES				
This checklist can be used as a decision screening tool where you suspect memory difficulties				
Observations		Yes	No	Not Sure
	Does the person ever miss appointments because they've forgotten to attend?			
	Does the person experience difficulty understanding and responding to questions?			
	Does the person experience difficulty following instructions?			
Skip if unaided	Does the person frequently forget to wear hearing aids prescribed?			
Skip if unaided	Does the person have hearing aids needed to be replaced because they were lost?			
Adapt if unaided	Does the person/carer complain of misplacing hearing aids or other items?			
	Is the person at risk of social isolation due to hearing loss?			
		Score (number of Yes):		
Interpretation of score is not too prescriptive, advise for part to consult GP is at clinical audiologist's discretion.				
⇨ whatever the result. As a guideline:				
With a score of:		1	2	3
For a Hearing Aid User:		Unlikely to need action now; speak to GP if concerns in future		
For someone Unaided:		Unlikely to need action now; speak to GP if concerns in future		
		Encouraged		

TEST YOUR MEMORY

The T.M. Test

PLEASE WRITE YOUR FULL NAME: _____

FORNAMES: _____ DAY: _____

TODAY'S DATE IS THE ____ OF ____ MONTH 20 ____

HOW OLD ARE YOU? _____ YEARS

ON WHAT DATE WERE YOU BORN? ____ / ____ MONTH, IN ____

PLEASE COPY THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE:

GOOD CITIZENS ALWAYS WEAR STOUT SHOES

PLEASE REAR THE SENTENCE AGAIN AND TRY TO REMEMBER IT

WHO IS THE PRIME MINISTER? _____

IN WHAT YEAR DID THE 1ST WORLD WAR START? _____

SUNS

$20 + 4 =$ $10 + 17 =$ $4 + 15 + 17 =$	$20 + 4 =$ $10 + 17 =$ $4 + 15 + 17 =$
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WHY IS A CARROT LIKE A POTATO? _____

WHY IS A LEON LIKE A WOLF? _____

CASE NAME THESE ITEMS

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2	
3	
4	
5	

TOGETHER TO FORM A
PICTURE

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PLACE THE IN THE NUMBERS
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PLEASE WRITE DOWN THE SENTENCE

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REMEMBER: GOOD CITIZENS ALWAYS WEAR STOUT SHOES

Please Test Over

YOU'VE FOUND VALUES FOR TODAY

October 2019

NEXT YEAR

- A research audiologist observed appointments and recorded timings, memory scores, observed emotions and reactions
- A clinical audiologist performed the CA, explained results and informed the GP via letter



Variable	UCLH	SUH	Combined
Age (years)	Median 77 Range 60–91	Median 68 Range 60–83	Median 70 Range 60–91
Sex	M:F 12:11	M:F 18:22	M:F 30:33
Previous hearing aid experience, n (%)	16 (70%)	2 (5%)	18 (29%)
Attended alone, n (%)	13 (57%)	32 (80%)	45 (71%)
Better ear pure tone average (dB)	44 dB	33 dB	39 dB

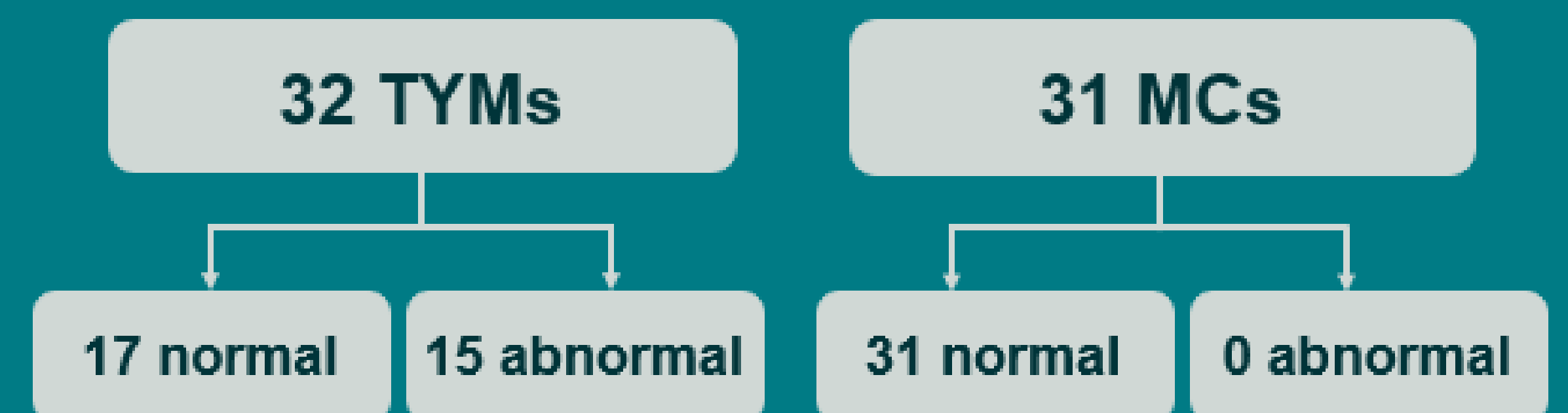
Key

- Asian Indian
- Asian Other
- Other White
- White British

Dark Blue	Dark Blue	Dark Blue	Dark Blue	Dark Blue
Light Blue	White	White	White	White
Medium Blue	Medium Blue	Medium Blue	Medium Blue	Medium Blue
Medium Blue	Medium Blue	Medium Blue	Medium Blue	Medium Blue
Medium Blue	Medium Blue	Medium Blue	Light Green	Light Green

A 10x10 grid of blue squares on a light green background. The grid is composed of 10 columns and 10 rows of squares, totaling 100 squares. The squares are arranged in a regular pattern, with each square being a solid blue color. The grid is centered on the page, with a light green background visible around the edges.

- All participants completed the brief CA
- Average duration of CA including results discussion: TYM 7.6 minutes (UCLH 9.4 min, SUH 6.6 min), MC 1.9 minutes (UCLH 2.8 min, SUH 1.5 min)



- Cognitive impairment indicated in 15/32 (47%) on TYM (UCLH 9/12 (75%), SUH 6/20 (30%)), and 0/31 on MC
- Clinical audiologists were observed to be confident and comfortable in performing CA and results discussion

Both approaches appear feasible. The TYM identified a high number with potential cognitive impairment, although required more time to complete. The MC took much less time, but lacked sufficient sensitivity. Significant demographic variability was noted between both sites, which may explain differences in CA results. Further research is needed to establish how audiologists proactively identify cognitive impairment, the impact of CA on care pathways and optimisation of HA use.

1. Livingston, G; Huntley, J; Sommerlad, A et al. (2020) Dementia prevention, intervention, and care: 2020 report of the Lancet Commission. *The Lancet* 2020; 396(10248): 413-46
2. Omar, R; Forbes, M; Vaid, D et al. (2025) Cognitive assessment in hearing aid clinics: Is it feasible to implement in a National Health Service (NHS) setting? *Science Progress* 2025-04, Vol. 108 (2)