

Dear Lions Hearing Clinic Client,

**Subject:** Invitation to participate in a new hearing study

## Ever had trouble hearing in noisy places, but been told your hearing is “normal”?

**You’re not alone—and this study is for you.**

We are the Ear Science Institute Australia, the research arm of the Lions Hearing Clinic. We are working with the National Acoustic Laboratories (NAL), a world leading hearing research institute. We are running a study for people who experience hearing difficulties, even though their hearing tests show ‘normal’ or very mild hearing loss.

These kinds of challenges are common—especially in places with background noise or group conversations—but they’re often missed in standard hearing tests.

Some people find that hearing aids help. Others don’t. We want to find out why.

This study will explore how hearing care providers can better assess hearing difficulties and how to fine-tune hearing aids to give people the best possible results. By taking part, you’ll not only learn more about your own hearing and whether hearing aids could help—you’ll also be helping us build better tools and training for hearing professionals and improving hearing care for millions around the world.

We’re contacting you because our records suggest you sometimes experience hearing difficulties, even though your hearing test results show normal or very mild hearing loss. Your experience would be incredibly valuable in helping us shape better hearing solutions.

### What’s involved?

The study has four parts:

- **Online survey (20 mins)** – Complete a short survey at home about your hearing experiences.
- **Clinic visit (up to 2 hours)** – Have a full hearing assessment and set up a smartphone app to track your real-world listening over the following two weeks.
- **Hearing aid fitting (1 hour)** – Come back for a free hearing aid fitting tailored to your needs, plus training and support.
- **4-week hearing aid trial** – Wear the free hearing aids in your daily life. Use the app to track your real-world listening for the first 2 weeks, then complete a short survey and optional online discussion at the end.

### Where will the clinic visit and hearing aid fitting take place?

The location of these visits are as follows:

Ralph and Patricia Sarich Neuroscience Research Institute (Lions Hearing Clinic Nedlands)  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor  
8 Verdun Street  
Nedlands  
WA 6009.

You'll be supported throughout the study. Returning the hearing aids at the end is free and easy.

### Who can take part?

You may be eligible if you:

- ✓ Are aged 18 or older
- ✓ Experience some hearing challenges
- ✓ Do *not* currently use a hearing aid
- ✓ Can complete an online survey and attend two in-person visits at the research site in Nedlands, WA.

### Interested? Here's what to do next:

- Review the attached Participant Information Sheet for full study details.
- Click this link to register your interest and complete the online survey:  
<https://redcap.nal.gov.au/surveys/?s=KTDPFM48HTWKYE7D>
- If you have any questions, just reply to this email—we're happy to help!

As a thank you for your time and contribution, all participants will receive a **\$300 gift card at the end of the study.**

Thank you for considering this opportunity to support hearing research. We'd love to hear from you!

Warm regards,

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