Titan Wideband Tympanometry

This technology was funded through the New Technology Funding and Evaluation Program (NTFEP). The NTFEP funds the introduction and evaluation of new technologies that:

- Are safe and effective
- Provide better health outcomes
- Provide value for money
- Provide greater access to care.

The evaluation findings will inform recommendations regarding the future use and/or investment of the technology within Queensland.

What is the technology?
The Titan Wideband Tympanometry (WBT440) is a non-invasive diagnostic and screening assessment for middle ear function that can perform several middle ear tests at once, across a wide band of frequencies (250 to 8000 Hz) important for speech. One of these is a new test, Wideband Absorbance (WBA), which tests middle ear function to identify abnormal middle ear function and conductive hearing loss in infants, children and adults. Conductive hearing loss occurs when there is a problem conducting sound waves through the outer ear, eardrum (tympanic membrane) and middle ear (ossicles). In comparison, standard measures of middle ear function use only a single frequency of 226 Hz.

What were the evaluation findings?

- WBA is better in identifying various middle ear pathologies than single frequency (226 Hz) tympanometry.
- WBA improves patient diagnosis when results of other middle ear tests are inconclusive.
- The unique pattern of WBA is very useful in differentiating presence or absence of middle ear effusion (a build-up of fluid in the middle ear) in infants and young children.
- The Titan Wideband Tympanometry significantly reduces testing time of the middle ear.
- Middle ear testing using the Titan Wideband Tympanometry is safe and non-invasive, and can be performed immediately after surgery.
- WBA is a good adjunct tool for middle ear assessment and provides additional information compared to single frequency tympanometry tests.

Where was it evaluated?
Audiology, Townsville Hospital (2017)

Want more information?
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