

# A Concise Vocabulary of Audiology and allied topics

## Part 2: Abbreviations

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This on-line version contains some additional material not in the original printed version. Abbreviations for institutions, government bodies and documents are given first, followed by Abbreviations for technical terms.

The main vocabulary is in Part 1

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### **ABBREVIATIONS** *INSTITUTIONS, GOVERNMENT BODIES, DOCUMENTS etc*

AAA	American Academy of Audiology
AAO	American Academy of Otolaryngology (formerly AAOO)
AAOO	American Academy of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology
AAS	American Auditory Society
ANSI	American National Standards Institute (formerly ASA)
ASA	1. American Standards Association (see ANSI) 2. Acoustical Society of America
ASHA	American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
BAAP	British Association of Audiological Physicians
BAAS	British Association of Audiological Scientists
BAAT	British Association of Audiology Technicians
BACDA	British Association of Community Doctors in Audiology
BAOL	British Association of Otolaryngologists
BATOD	British Association of Teachers of the Deaf
BCIG	British Cochlear Implant Group
BIG	Balance Interest Group (of the BSA)
BS	British Standard; see entry in main section
BSA	British Society of Audiology
BSHAA	British Society of Hearing Aid Audiologists
BSHT	British Society of Hearing Therapists
BSI	British Standards Institution
CCITT	Comité Consultatif International Télégraphique et Téléphonique, now renamed ITU
CEC	Commission of the European Communities
CEN	European Committee for Standardization
CENELEC	European Committee for Electrical Standardization
CHABA	NRC-NAS Committee on Hearing, Bioacoustics and Biomechanics (National Research Council-National Academy of Sciences, USA)

CID	Central Institute for the Deaf (USA)
EC	European Community
EEC	European Economic Community
EN	European standard; see entry in main section
ETSI	European Telecommunications Standards Institute
EU	European Union
HAC	Hearing Aid Council
HAIC	Hearing Aid Industries Conference (USA)
HSC	Health and Safety Commission
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
IAAP	International Association of Audiological Physicians
IAPA	International Association of Physicians in Audiology
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
IHR	MRC Institute of Hearing Research
IIAC	Industrial Injuries Advisory Council
ILO	Institute of Laryngology and Otology
IOA	Institute of Acoustics
ISA	International Society of Audiology
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITU	International Telecommunications Union (UN)
ITU-T	ITU Telecommunications Standardization Sector (of former CCITT)
MRC	Medical Research Council
NAL	National Acoustic Laboratories (Australia)
NBS	National Bureau of Standards (USA) (now re-named NIST)
NCPA	National Committee of Professionals in Audiology
NDCS	National Deaf Children's Society
NIH	National Institutes of Health (USA)
NIOSH	National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (USA)
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology (USA)
NPL	National Physical Laboratory
NSH	National Study of Hearing (by the MRC Institute of Hearing Research)
OIML	International Organization of Legal Metrology
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration (USA)
RNID	Royal National Institute for Deaf People
SI	Système International d'Unités
USPHS	United States Public Health Service
WHO	World Health Organization

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**ABBREVIATIONS TECHNICAL TERMS**

In the section below, terms shown in **bold** are defined in the main Vocabulary. Also below are a number of obsolescent or obsolete terms; these are given for historical interest. Some terms in light type occur in the main text, but not as independent entries.

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AAHL	<b>age-associated hearing loss</b>
AATS	age-associated threshold shift
AB	designator for word lists devised by Arthur Boothroyd (lists adapted for Southern English are designated AB-S)
ABG	<b>air-bone gap</b>
ABLB	<b>alternate binaural loudness balance</b>
ABR	<b>auditory brainstem response</b>
AC	alternating current
a-c	<b>air conduction</b>
ADN	auditory disability with normal hearing (same as OAD)
AGC	<b>automatic gain control</b>
AHTL	apparent hearing threshold level (as in Stenger test)
AI	<b>articulation index</b>
AM	amplitude modulation
AMLB	alternate monaural loudness balance (same as MLB)
AP	action potential
APR	auropalpebral reflex
APV	<b>assumed protection</b> value (of a hearing protector)
ARD	acoustic reflex decay
ARHL	age-related hearing loss (same as AAHL)
ART	<b>acoustic reflex threshold</b>
ARTS	age-related threshold shift (same as AATS)
AVC	<b>automatic volume control</b>
BAHA	bone-anchored hearing aid
BPPV	<b>benign paroxysmal positional vertigo</b>
b-c	<b>bone conduction</b>
BE	behind-the-ear (hearing aids)
BER	<b>brainstem evoked response</b>
BKB	Bamford-Kowal-Bench (speech test sentences)
BMLD	<b>binaural masking level difference</b>
BW	body-worn (hearing aids)
CANS	central auditory nervous system
CAPD	central auditory processing disorder (USA)
CCM	contralateral competing message test (USA)
CDP	computerized dynamic posturography

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CERA	<b>cortical electric response audiometry</b>
CHL	<b>conductive hearing loss</b>
CIC	completely-in-canal (hearing aids)
CM	cochlear microphonic
CNV	contingent negative variation
CORA	conditioned orientation response audiometry
CP	<b>canal paresis</b>
CPA	cerebello-pontine angle
cps, c/s	cycle per second (obsolete abbreviations)
CROS	<b>contralateral routing of signals</b> (hearing aids)
CVC	consonant-vowel-consonant
dB	<b>decibel</b> (unit of level)
DC	direct current
DL	1. <b>difference limen</b> 2. discrimination loss
DP	<b>directional preponderance</b>
DPOAE	distortion-product otoacoustic emission
DSF	delayed speech feedback
ECochG	<b>electrocochleography</b>
ECoG	electrocochleography (USA)
EDA	electrodermal audiometry
EEG	electroencephalography
EMG	electromyography
ENG	<b>electronystagmography</b>
EOAE	evoked otoacoustic emission
EOG	electro-oculography (same as ENG)
EP	endocochlear potential
ERA	1. <b>electric response audiometry</b> 2. evoked response audiometry
ERP	event-related potential
FHL	functional hearing loss (same as NOHL)
FM	frequency modulation
GHTL	<b>genuine hearing threshold level</b>
HATS	<b>head-and-torso simulator</b>
HHS	Hearing Handicap Scale (USA)
HL	<b>hearing level</b>
HLS	<b>hearing level of speech</b>
HML	high-medium-low (method of hearing protector rating)
HMS	Hearing Measurement Scale
HOSRTL	<b>half optimum speech recognition threshold level</b>
HPD	hearing protection device
HPLE	<b>half-peak level elevation</b>

HTL	<b>hearing threshold level</b>
HTLA	hearing threshold level associated with age
HTLAN	hearing threshold level associated with age and noise
Hz	hertz (unit of <b>frequency</b> )
ICM	ipsilateral competing message test (USA)
IHC	inner hair cell
IPA	international phonetic alphabet
ISI	inter-stimulus interval
ITC	in-the-canal (hearing aids)
ITE	in-the-ear (hearing aids)
I/O	input/output function
jnd	<b>just-noticeable difference</b>
LDL	<b>loudness discomfort level</b> (same as ULL)
MAF	<b>minimum audible</b> (sound) <b>field</b>
MAP	<b>minimum audible</b> (sound) <b>pressure</b>
MCL	most comfortable (listening) level
MEC	middle-ear compliance
MEP	middle-ear pressure
MIRE	microphone-in-real-ear (referring to a measurement technique)
MLB	monaural loudness balance
MLD	masking level difference
MLS	maximum length sequence
MMN	<b>mismatch negativity</b>
MRT	Modified Rhyme Test
MSRS	<b>maximum speech recognition score</b>
N	newton (unit of force)
NBN	<b>narrow-band noise</b>
NDT	noise detection threshold (USA)
nHL	normal hearing level (applied to clicks or brief tone stimuli)
NIHL	<b>noise-induced hearing loss</b>
NIL	1. <b>noise immission level</b> 2. noise interference level (USA)
NIPTS	<b>noise-induced permanent threshold shift</b>
NITTS	noise-induced temporary threshold shift
NOHL	<b>non-organic hearing loss</b>
NPN	neck positional nystagmus
NRR	noise reduction rating (of a hearing protector) (USA)
OAD	<b>obscure auditory dysfunction</b>
OAE	<b>otoacoustic emission</b>
ODS	<b>optimum discrimination score</b> (same as MSRS)
OFI	<b>optic fixation index</b>

OHC	outer hair cell
OKN	optokinetic nystagmus
OM	<b>otitis media</b>
OME	<b>otitis media</b> with effusion (glue ear)
Pa	pascal (unit of pressure and <b>sound pressure</b> )
PAM	1. <b>postauricular myogenic response</b> 2. postauricular muscle
PB	phonetically-balanced (referring to speech material)
pe SPL	<b>peak-to-peak equivalent sound pressure level</b>
PEL	permissible exposure level (USA)
PN	positional nystagmus
PNR	predicted noise level reduction (of a hearing protector)
PPE	personal protective equipment (includes HPDs)
PTA	<b>pure-tone audiometry</b>
PTC	psychoacoustical <b>tuning curve</b>
PTS	<b>permanent threshold shift</b>
PULHEEMS	health classification scheme used by the UK Ministry of Defence (the "H" refers to hearing)
REAG	real-ear aided gain (of a hearing aid)
REAR	real-ear aided response (of a hearing aid)
REAT	real-ear attenuation at threshold (of a hearing protector)
RECD	real-ear to coupler difference
REG	real-ear gain (of a hearing aid)
REIG	real-ear insertion gain (of a hearing aid)
REOG	real-ear occluded gain (of a hearing aid)
REOR	real-ear occluded response (of a hearing aid)
RETFL	<b>reference equivalent threshold force level</b>
RETSPL	<b>reference equivalent threshold sound pressure level</b>
REUG	real-ear unaided gain (of a hearing aid)
REUR	real-ear unaided response (of a hearing aid)
rms	<b>root mean square</b>
RSRTL	<b>reference speech recognition threshold level</b>
SBLB	simultaneous binaural loudness balance
SCAN	screening test for children's auditory processing disorders (USA)
SCAN-A	screening test for adult auditory processing disorders (USA)
SCC	<b>semicircular canal</b>
SDTL	speech detection threshold level
SEL	<b>sound exposure level</b>
SFOAE	stimulus-frequency otoacoustic emission
SHTL	<b>spurious hearing threshold level</b>
SIL	<b>speech interference level</b>
SISG	<b>simulated in-situ gain</b> (of hearing aid)

SISI	short-increment sensitivity index
SL	<b>sensation level</b>
SN	spontaneous nystagmus
SNHL	<b>sensorineural hearing loss</b>
SNR	1. <b>signal-to-noise ratio</b> (same as S/N) 2. single number rating (of a hearing protector)
SOAE	spontaneous otoacoustic emission
SOM	secretory <i>otitis media</i>
SP	summating potential
SPIN	speech intelligibility in noise test
SPL	<b>sound pressure level</b>
SRT	speech reception threshold
SRTL	<b>speech recognition threshold level</b>
SSPL	saturation sound pressure level (hearing aid output)
SSW	staggered spondaic word test
STAT	suprathreshold adaptation test (USA)
SVR	<b>slow vertex response</b>
SWAMI	speech with alternate masking index
SWL	<b>sound power level</b>
SWN	<b>speech-weighted noise</b>
S/N	<b>signal-to-noise ratio</b> (same as SNR)
TDT	threshold tone decay test (USA)
TEOAE	transient-evoked otoacoustic emission
THD	total harmonic distortion
TMD	<b>tympanic membrane displacement</b>
TOM	threshold of octave masking
TTD	<b>threshold tone decay</b>
TTS	<b>temporary threshold shift</b>
TWA	time-weighted average (sound level using 5 dB exchange rate over an 8 hour day, USA)
UCL	uncomfortable level (USA)
ULL	<b>uncomfortable loudness level</b> (same as LDL)
VOR	1. <b>vestibulo-ocular reflex</b> 2. visual-orienting response
VRA	visual reinforcement audiometry
WBN	<b>wideband noise</b>
WIPI	Word Intelligibility by Picture Identification (test) (USA)
WNAP	whole-nerve action potential