

Bridgewater Community Healthcare



NHS Trust

Nurse led ear care clinics

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Skills development

- New approach to ear care for the removal of wax within the community
- Microsuction instead of ear irrigation
- Developed in conjunction with WWL
- Development of clinical competencies
- Diploma in ear care at the primary ear care centre at Rotherham
- Teaching patients on prevention and care

Microsuction

- Safer procedure than irrigation
- Up to date skills taught by ENT department at WWL
- Ear care nurses still trained in ear irrigation as a back up
- Experts in ear care

Clinics

- Three clinics
- Leigh Health Centre
- Chandler House
- Claire House – includes an out of hours clinic Tuesday and Thursday 6 -8pm
- Promoting care closer to home
- Reduced waiting times

Access

- Fast track appointments available for patients who are waiting for audiology appointments
- GP's and patients have access through the central booking system. Offering either venue or appointment time to suit the patient - 483483

Criteria for an appointment

- Live within the borough or registered with a Wigan borough GP
- Over 16 years of age
- Removal of ear wax only
- Unable to perform if have a history of perforation
- Ear infection within the last 6 weeks
- Tinnitus
- For microsuction the patient needs to be able to lie on a bed, if they are wheel chair bound – will only be able to offer irrigation
- If the patient does not meet the criteria will be referred back to the GP for appropriate action (ENT referral may be required)

- Appointments should be made by contacting

01942 483483