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07/04

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR  
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control No. Department or Agency Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech Language Pathology & Audiology

Rule No. 870-X-7-.03

Rule Title: Audiology Scope Of Practice

New  X Amend  Repeal  Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety?

NO

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare?

YES

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public?

NO

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree?

NO

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule?

NO

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public?

YES

Does the proposed rule have an economic impact?

NO

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 412223, Code of Alabama 1975.

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Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Reference Service.

Signature of certifying officer

*James R. Curcio*

Date

6/12/15

(DATE FILED)  
(STAMP)

Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech-Language  
Pathology and Audiology (ABESPA)

**NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

Rule Number & Title: 870-X-7-.03  
Audiology Scope of Practice

Intended Action: To Amend Chapter

Substance of Amendment: ABESPA proposes to amend chapter to update  
language in the rules.

Time, Place, Manner of Presenting Views: Interested person may present their views in writing to the executive secretary of the Board at a time during the 35 day period following the 30<sup>th</sup> day of June. Any person who wishes to present his or her views orally at the public hearing may notify the Board in writing, before August 14, 2015, to P.O. Box 304760, Montgomery, AL 36130-4760. The public hearing will be held on August 14, 2015 at 400 South Union Street, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Montgomery, Alabama at 12:00 p.m.

Final Date for Comment and Completion of Notice: August 14, 2015

Contact Person at Agency: Wanda Rawlinson  
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Wanda C. Rawlinson  
Executive Secretary

870-X-7-.03 Audiology Scope Of Practice. The overriding principle is that audiologists will provide only those services for which they are adequately prepared through their academic and clinical training, and their experience, and their continuing education. The practice of audiology includes:

- (a) Screening, identifying, assessing, interpreting, diagnosing, preventing, and (re)habilitating peripheral and central auditory system dysfunctions;
- (b) Conducting otoscopic examinations and removing cerumen from external ear canal;
- (c) Providing and interpreting behavioral and (electro)physiological measurements of auditory, vestibular, and neural functions.
- (d) Evaluating and managing children and adults with central auditory processing disorders;
- (e) Conducting newborn hearing screening programs;
- (f) Assessing and providing nonmedical management of tinnitus;
- (g) Facilitating the conservation of auditory system function; developing and implementing environmental and occupational hearing conservation programs;
- (h) Selecting, fitting, and dispensing of hearing aids, assistive listening and alerting devices and other systems (e.g. implantable devices) and providing training in their use;
- (i) Providing Audiological (re)habilitation and related counseling services to hearing impaired individuals, their families, and other professionals;
- (j) Providing related counseling services to individuals with any type of hearing related communication disorder and their family members;
- (k) Consulting with educators about communication management of children with hearing impairment;
- (l) Consulting and providing rehabilitative services to persons with balance disorders;
- (m) Developing and managing academic and clinical programs in communication sciences and disorders;
- (n) Designing, implementing, analyzing, and interpreting the results of research related to auditory and vestibular systems;
- (o) Screening of speech-language and other factors affecting communication function for the purposes of an audiological evaluation and/or initial identification of individuals with other communication disorders.
- (p) Measuring outcomes of treatment and conducting continuous evaluation of the effectiveness of practices and programs to improve and maintain quality of services.

Authors: Robin Auerbach, Denise P. Gibbs, Martha W. Paxton, Lissa Van Doorn, Robert L. Rane and Richard Talbott

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §34-28A-42, et seq.

History: New Rule: Filed October 18, 1994; effective November 21, 1994. Revised 6/99.