Independent Audiologists

Dr Louise Collingridge is a member of the IAA and past President gave the following information.

“Membership of our association is voluntary – full members are university qualified audiologists who have a financial interest in an audiology practice that is at least 50 % owned by audiologists – so we represent a very specific sector.  There are some audiologists who are independent who choose not to belong to our association, and there are some who call themselves independent, but don’t meet our criteria for membership.  We currently have members in all states of Australia – many have more than one clinic site – so collectively, we have 78 members and over 150 clinic sites.

The best way to keep up to date with our membership is to download our membership list from our website [www.aaapp.org.au](http://www.aaapp.org.au) and use our “find an independent audiologist” webpage.

**Why consult an independent audiologist?**

Independent audiologists own and operate their own practices, which means that the owner of the clinic has qualified at university and is trained as an audiologist.

Independent audiologists are not owned by or closely affiliated to hearing device manufacturers.

Independent audiologists provide continuity of service – you will see the same audiologist at each visit and know that the work of any employee is overseen by a qualified audiologist.

Independent audiologists do not work to sales targets or receive commission on hearing device sales.

Independent audiologist provide advice and guide your rehabilitation decisions.  Full explanations will be given for all recommendations that are linked to your hearing and communication needs.

Independent audiologists will deliver professional services tailored to your needs, as shown from a comprehensive hearing assessment.

Independent audiologists can offer government funded services – for Office of Hearing Services voucher holders, WorkCover or WorkSafe candidates, Department of Veterans Affairs and where Medicare rebates apply.