

Listen to Learn: A Preschool and School Ear and Hearing Health Screening Program

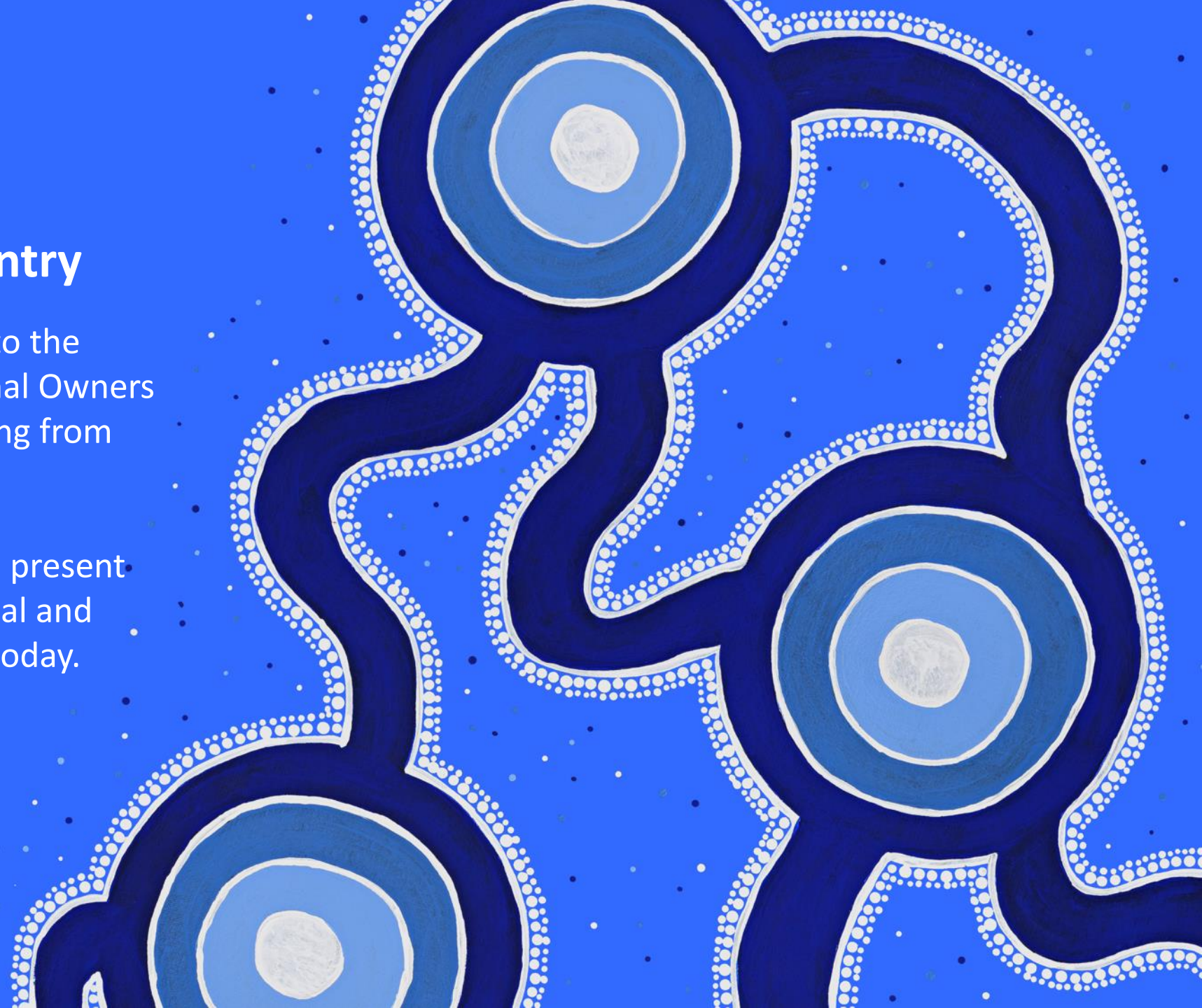
T Flynn, M Clapin, C Koros, J Gavrilis,
ANHS 2025



Acknowledgment of Country

I acknowledge and pay my respect to the Ngunnawal peoples as the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we are meeting from today.

I pay my respects to Elders past and present and I extend my respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.



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Introduction





What did Listen to Learn aim to achieve?

Sector
engagement

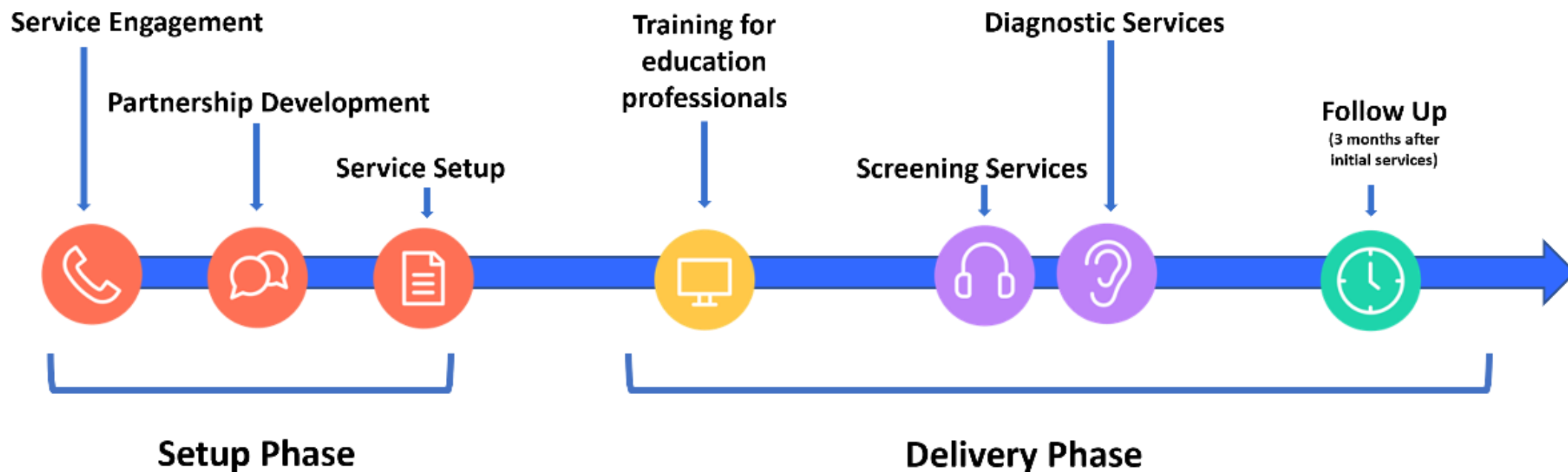
Capability and
training

Service
delivery

Awareness and
cultural safety

Data and
evaluation

Listen to Learn Program Overview

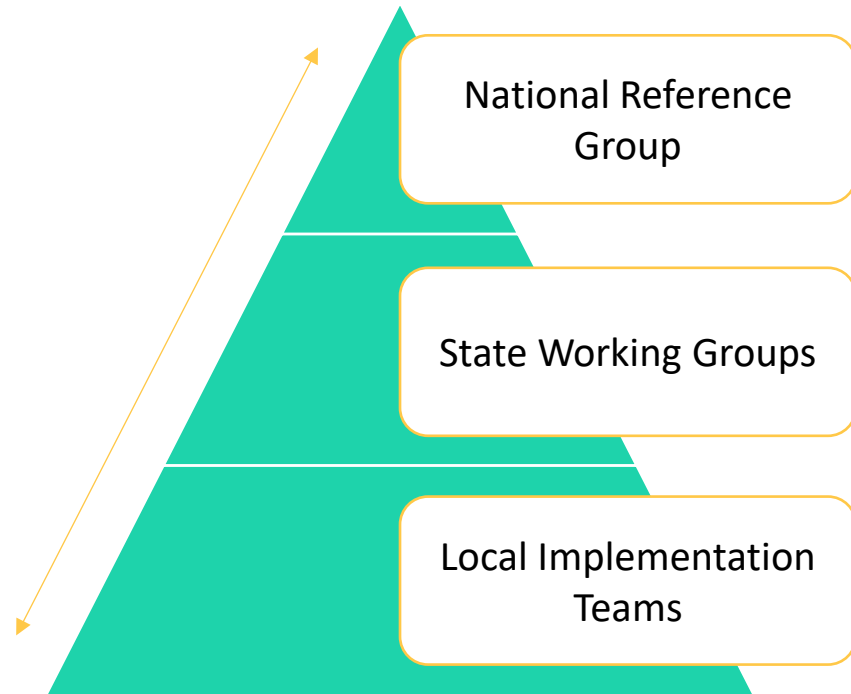


Outcomes



Stakeholder engagement

Sector
engagement



We undertook co-design at three levels:

- National
- State
- Local

Each level of co-design has a different purpose, method and output.

Capability and training

Capability and training

Cultural
Determinants
and Awareness
(ECEC and
School)
n=990

Prevention and
Service /
Classroom
Modifications
(ECEC and School)
n=786

Yarning with
Families (ECEC
and School)

Screening Tools
and Referrals
(ECEC)

Capability and training

Capability and training

Cultural Determinants and Awareness (ECEC and School)

Prevention and Service / Classroom Modifications (ECEC and School)

Yarning with Families (ECEC and School)

Screening Tools and Referrals (ECEC)

Capability and training

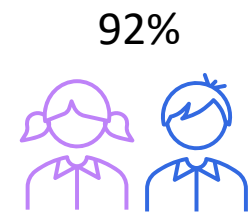
Cultural Determinants
and Awareness
Pre survey n=909
Post survey n=565



In confidence

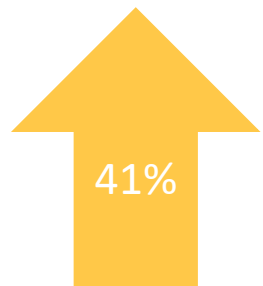


Recommend to a friend



Benefit their students

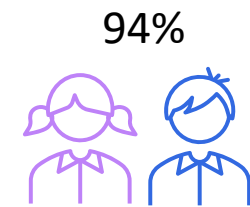
Prevention and
Service / Classroom
Modifications
Pre survey n=779
Post survey n=430



In confidence



Recommend to a friend



Benefit their students

Service delivery

Service Delivery

Screening

- Ear health
- Hearing

On site by our Clinical
Community Advisors (CCA)

Diagnostics

- Ear health
screening
- Hearing
- Communication

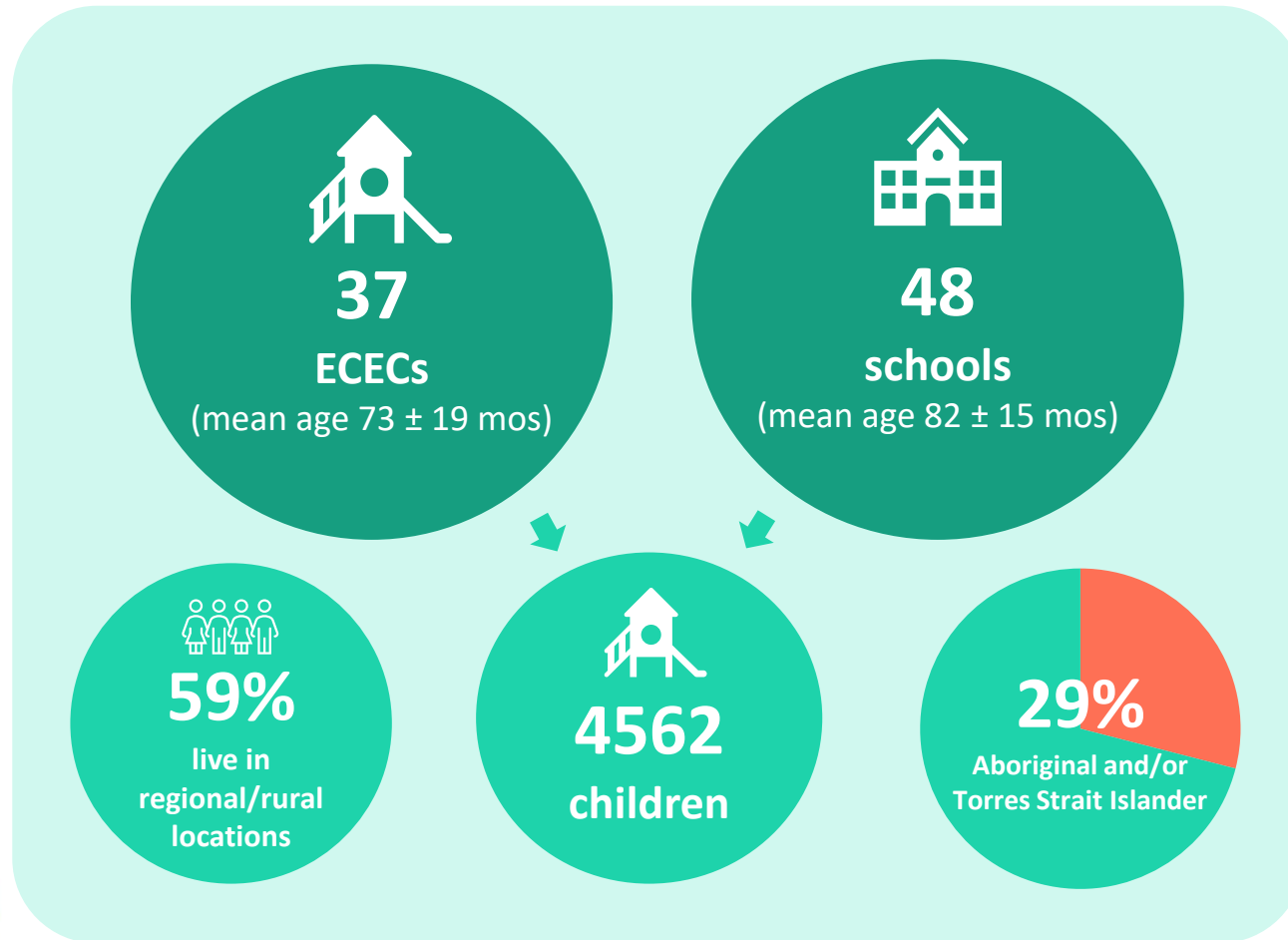
On site by our Audiologists

Three-month follow-up

- Ear health and
hearing screening
- Diagnostics if
needed

On site by our CCAs and
Audiologists

Participating children



Definitions



Ear Health

- **Unhealthy ear** is defined as having a Type B Tympanogram (immobile ear drum).
- **Healthy ear** is defined as having a Type A / C Tympanogram (mobile ear drum).



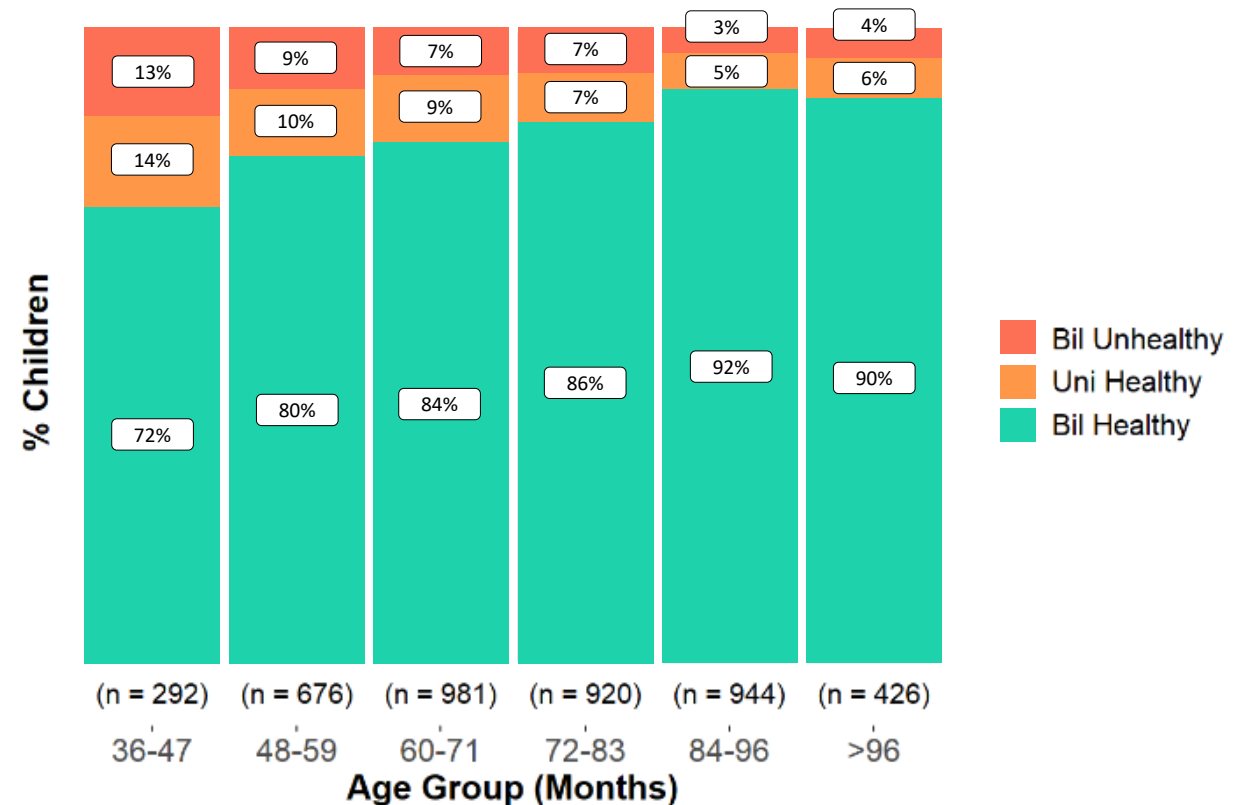
Hearing Loss

- **Hearing within normal limits** defined as three frequency average (3FA) less than or equal to 20 dB HL.
- **Mild Hearing Loss** defined as 3FA dB HL between 21-39 dB HL.
- **Moderate+ Hearing Loss** defined as 3FA dB HL greater than or equal to 40 dB HL.

Results: Screening (n = 4,562 screened)

- 3042 (67%) children passed
- 864 (19%) children were referred for diagnostic assessment
- 656 (14%) children were referred for a 3 month follow-up appointment

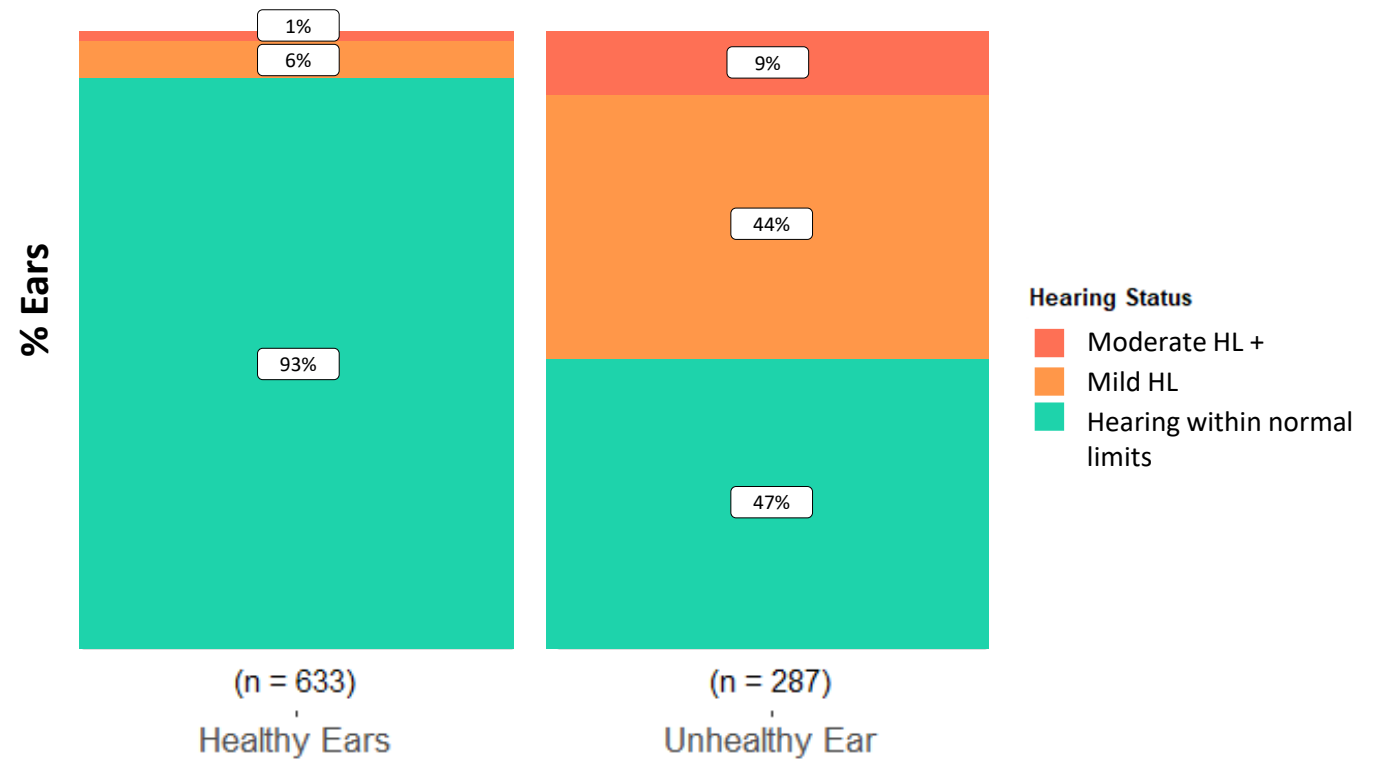
Ear health at screening by age



Results: Diagnostics

- Unhealthy ears are associated with compromised hearing
 - 44% with mild loss
 - 9% with moderate loss

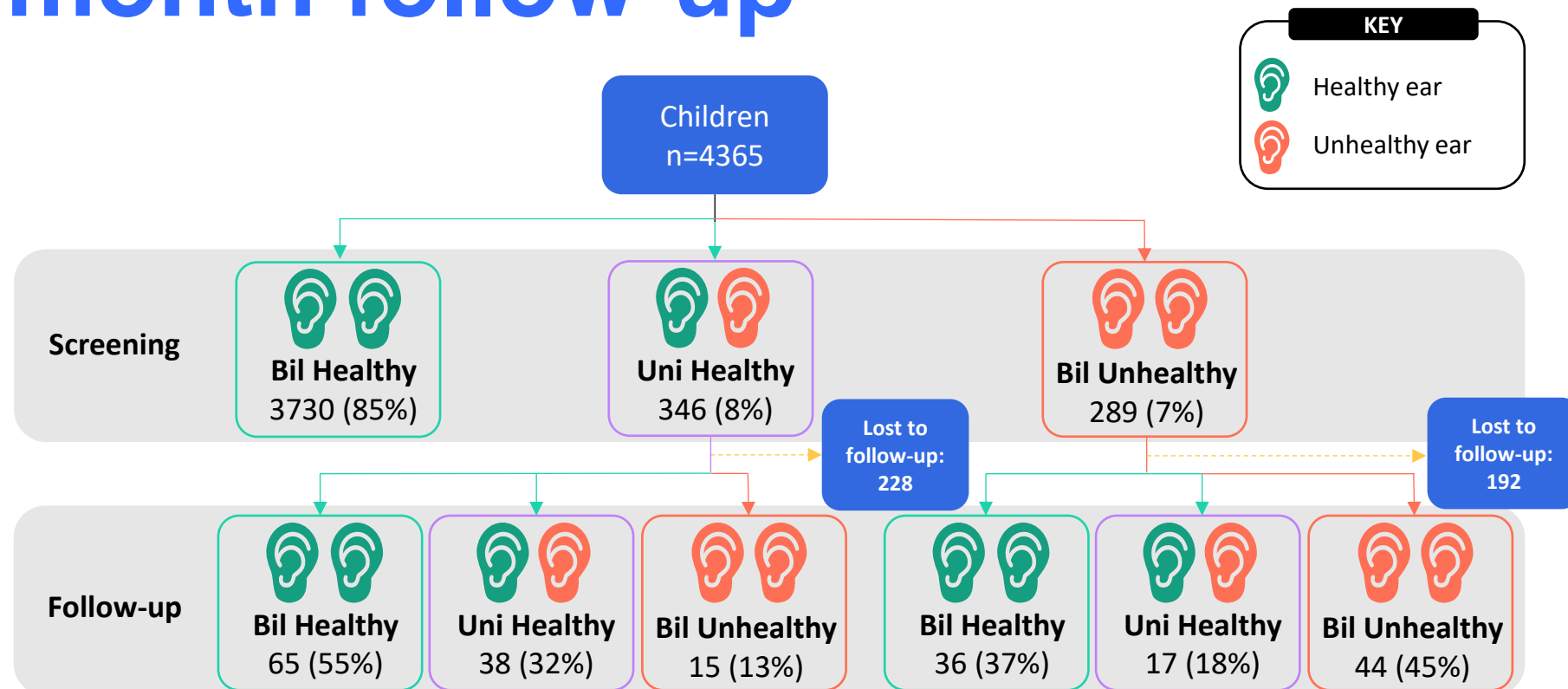
Ear health at screening by age



Results: 3-month follow-up

Key findings:

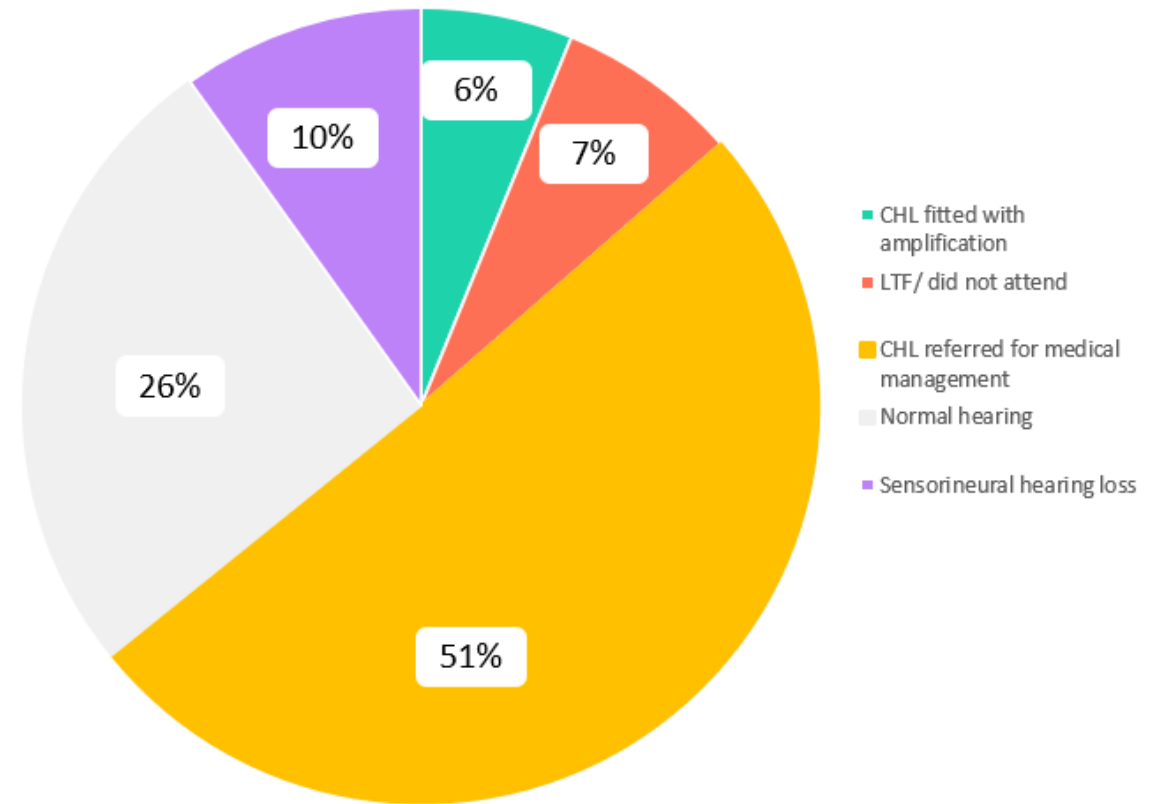
- **55%** of children with an **unilateral unhealthy** ear recover to **bilateral healthy** ears.
- **45%** of children with **bilateral unhealthy** ears persist **unhealthy**



Results: 3-month follow-up referrals to HA

- Majority of children with conductive hearing loss are awaiting medical management
- Approximately 10% of children were diagnosed with a sensorineural hearing loss

Children referred to HA



n=81 children

Conclusions



Conclusion



**Thank you and
contact details**



**Thank you to
our partners
and families**



Connect with us

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