

NAL-NL3 Cheat Sheet for Clinicians

	NAL-NL3 Prescription	Minimal Hearing Loss Module	Comfort in Noise Module
Rationale	To maximise Speech Intelligibility without exceeding normal loudness.	To maximise Speech Intelligibility in noise for minimal or subjective hearing impairments by providing the minimum gain required to access SNR-improving features of hearing devices.	To improve loudness comfort in noisy situations while retaining speech intelligibility. Features a lower acceptable loudness limit than NAL-NL3 Prescription.
Primary Use Case	Adults or children with measured aidable hearing loss, as clinically advised. For general hearing aid use.	Adults with hearing thresholds that are normal, near normal, or with a 4FAHL of <25dBHL (500Hz, 1kHz, 2kHz, 4kHz), without a conductive hearing loss. This gain profile is intended for situational use in noisy or poor SNR conditions.	Adults or children using the NAL-NL3 Prescription who are clinically advised to utilise a comfort in noise program (<u>not</u> as their primary program).
Hearing Device Requirements	Any hearing device capable of multiband wide dynamic range compression can be programmed with NAL-NL3.	Any hearing device with features that are effective at improving SNR (e.g. with directional microphones, noise management, etc).	Any hearing device programmed with NAL-NL3 can be programmed with Comfort in Noise Module.
Age	Any age.	Adults (≥ 15 years) only.	Any age.
Coupling Considerations	Whichever coupling is clinically appropriate for the hearing loss, device fitted, and client needs.	The most occluding coupling the client will accept will offer the most benefit. Ideally a coupling that is effectively occluding above 1kHz.	Whichever coupling is clinically appropriate for the hearing loss, device fitted, and client needs.
Programming Considerations	Program following standard protocols; including MPO checks, own voice counselling, and fine-tuning.	Keep the default MPO for maximum benefit in loud noise and only reduce if discomfort is experienced.	Ensure any personal preference/fine-tuning adjustments applied to NAL-NL3 on the primary hearing aid program are also applied to the Comfort in Noise Module.
Verification	REMs matched to target at 50dB, 65dB, 80dB.	REMs matched to target at 65dB, 80dB.	REMs matched to target at 65dB, 80dB.

Case Examples

	NAL-NL3 Prescription	Minimal Hearing Loss Module	Comfort in Noise Module																																																																																				
Typical Use Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescription for traditionally aidable hearing loss. • All-day hearing aid use. • Difficulty with speech in quiet. • Difficulty with speech in noise. • Turning up volume on phone, TV, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescription for normal, near-normal, or mild hearing loss thresholds, but with significant difficulty hearing in noise. • Intended for situational hearing aid use only (social events, noisy workplace settings, meetings, etc). • Difficulty in noise or poor-SNR situations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAL-NL3 user who struggles with loudness comfort in noisy situations. • Difficulty balancing volume changes for comfort vs. speech clarity in poor SNR conditions. • Able and willing to access additional program optimised for noisy situations. 																																																																																				
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Coupling	As clinically required. (e.g. open dome, tulip dome, vented earmould etc.)	As occluding as acceptable to the client. (e.g. power dome, closed dome, vented earmould etc.)	As clinically required. Note: that in all speech-in-noise conditions a more occluding coupling will provide a greater benefit from a hearing aid.																																																																																				
Programming	For general, everyday use.	For use in a noise-optimised program.	For use in a noise-optimised program.																																																																																				