DO NOT FORGET · THE SHORT CHECKLIST



Otoscopy

Systematic examination of the external ear, ear canal and tympanic membrane with an otoscope, with bedside hearing tests.

EM Orbit

Patient reference	Date	Time	Completed by

The 3 steps that must not be missed

- [ ] DURING
Always brace the examining hand against the head so a sudden movement cannot drive the speculum into the canal

- [ ] DURING
Do not insert instruments, suction or irrigate the ear if a perforation or CSF leak is suspected

- [ ] AFTER
Sudden sensorineural hearing loss needs same-day ENT referral
Per NICE NG98.

The short list: an aid to memory, not the whole procedure. The full checklist is at the QR code. It does not replace your local protocol or your clinical judgement.
EM Orbit · Emergency medicine, in one orbit · proc-otoscopy-quick · the short checklist