ALGORITHM 8: MANAGEMENT Dry Perforation (DP)

How long has dry perforation (hole in eardrum) been present?

> 3 MONTHS

- Monitor listening behaviour for signs of hearing loss
- Refer for hearing assessment
- Refer for ENT assessment

< 3 MONTHS

Review regularly (see algorithm 1)

Hearing Loss ≤20 dB in the better ear

With normal or slight hearing loss
- Review 3-monthly

Hearing Loss 21 - 30 dB in the better ear

With mild hearing loss
- Use and recommend strategies to improve quality of communication
- Ensure ongoing audiological, language and educational support
- If school age, recommend classroom amplification
- Refer for speech therapy if concerned about language development

Hearing Loss >30 dB in the better ear

With moderate hearing loss
- Use and recommend strategies to improve quality of communication
- Ensure ongoing audiological, language and educational support
- Refer for hearing aid consult if surgery delayed >6 months, unavailable or unsuccessful, and hearing loss >30 dB in the better ear
- If school age, recommend classroom amplification
- Refer for speech therapy if concerned about language development