

**For parents of children undergoing the 3yrs. 6 mo. health exam:**

**Please fill out the following survey about your child's hearing and conduct the whisper test before the exam.**



### Function of the ears

The ears are important in that they differentiate between sounds and people's voices, and allow children to acquire language by repeating the pronunciation they hear.



### Hearing and Childhood Development

Hardness of hearing due to sickness, etc., however mild, can have an adverse effect after entering kindergarten, school, and other learning environments. In Otsu, we aim to discover problems early in order to provide appropriate treatment, encourage clear pronunciation of words, and limit negative effects in learning environments.

We ask that the parents of children undergoing the 3 yr./6 mo. exam carry out the below prior to the examination.

#### ① Survey about your child's hearing

Please fill out this survey before the 3 yr/6 mo. exam, and turn it in at the exam reception along with your mother/child health booklet and questionnaire.

#### Whisper Test

Read on the back of this form how to do the test, and carry out the test using the enclosed whisper test picture sheet. Please fill out the results on the survey sheet.



### If you find that your child might be hard of hearing:

Depending on your survey and whisper test results, staff may conduct another whisper test during the 3 yr/6 mo. exam. If there is reason to believe that your child might be hard of hearing, we will recommend that you get a detailed examination at a medical facility.

Furthermore, please note that this information is being sent out to everyone, even those already diagnosed with hearing disabilities and undergoing treatment /consultation. If you have already been diagnosed and/or are undergoing treatment, you do not need to conduct the whisper test, but please let us know what treatment your child is receiving when you come for your health exam.

<Inquiries:>

Otsu City General Health Center

Asuto Hamaotsu 2F, Hamaotsu 4 Chome 1-1, Otsu-shi

TEL 528-2748 FAX 523-1110

# Whisper Test Method

## Things to be aware of when you conduct the test:

- Please conduct the test in a quiet environment, without outside noise caused by passing vehicles, television, etc.
- Say the name of the picture **1 time only**. Even if they ask you to repeat yourself, **please do not repeat the word**.

## How to whisper:

Please whisper using only your breath, as if you were telling someone a secret. If you speak normally, you will feel movement when you touch your throat (Adam's apple), but you will feel nothing if you are whispering properly. Please whisper like this.

## Test Method

- ① Face the **whisper test picture sheet** toward your child, and sit facing your child at a 1 meter distance. (See picture below.)
- ② Tell your child that you will say the name of a picture, and instruct them to point at the corresponding picture in front of them. Say the name of the picture in a normal speaking voice, (i.e. "elephant") and have your child answer all six pictures correctly.
- ③ Tell your child that you are going to do the same thing in a softer voice, and to point to the correct picture. Hide your mouth with your hand or something else, and say the names of all 6 pictures 1 time only. Please mark all pictures your child answers correctly with a circle, and incorrect answers with an X on your survey sheet.

