

## 1. Mission:

*"Reduce the impact of hearing and balance disability in New Zealand and the Pacific region through excellence in research, community education and promotion of quality clinical service"*

## 2. Key Strategic Goals

- **Understanding Hearing and Balance Disorders**
  - ✓ Draw on centre strengths and national and international collaborations to undertake interdisciplinary studies to understand the causes, mechanisms and consequences of hearing and balance disorders.
- **Treating Ear Disease and Hearing and Balance Disorders**
  - ✓ Translate basic research findings into therapies.
  - ✓ Investigate therapies to reduce effects of auditory processing disorders.
  - ✓ Expand and develop trials to enhance brain plasticity for treatment of tinnitus, auditory processing and vestibular disorders.
- **Development and Introduction of New Technologies**
  - ✓ Work with industry partners to develop and enhance technologies to prevent and manage hearing and vestibular disorders.
  - ✓ Investigate development of affordable and appropriate hearing devices and clinical diagnostic tools for developing countries, particularly Pacific Island nations.
- **Prevention of Hearing and Balance Disorders and Promotion of Healthy Hearing and Sound Environments**
  - ✓ With community and industry partnerships develop, trial and evaluate health promotion programmes to increase awareness and prevention of hearing and balance disorders.
  - ✓ In partnership with community investigate importance of the Soundscape on health, promote good acoustics and reduced noise environments.
- **Training of Researchers and Hearing and Balance Health Clinicians**
  - ✓ Contribute to high quality education of Clinical Audiologists and Speech Language Therapists to ensure hearing health professions that deliver evidence-based practice.
  - ✓ Training of the next generation of hearing and balance researchers through summer studentships and postgraduate research training.
- **Global Hearing and Balance Health**
  - ✓ Utilise the expertise and resources within the centre to support the development of sustainable hearing services in the Pacific region.
  - ✓ Work with international organisations to promote global hearing and balance health.
- **Community Engagement and Education**
  - ✓ Work with community organisations to inform and educate the public about hearing and balance disorders, their prevention and contribute to policy.
  - ✓ Engage and involve communities in our research and education.