

HEARING LOSS



Information on hearing loss

Pakistan
ear
Foundation
www.pakistanearfoundation.com

Aids for listening

Simple communication begins even before we learn to speak, through facial expressions, like a smile and later with simple signs and gestures. The goal of aids for listening is to make speech sounds heard so that speech and spoken language can develop as normally as possible.

Hearing aids

- A hearing aid is a device that makes sounds louder and clearer for the wearer, the aim is to make all the sounds of speech clear enough to be heard.
- Hearing aids for young children may be worn behind the ear (BTE or post-aural), in the ear (ITE) or on the body. Most infants will be provided with a BTE aid.
- A microphone picks up sound, which is amplified then sent into the ear through a connecting tube and earmould. The earmould has to fit exactly to give the best possible sound quality, the shape of the ear will be copied by taking an impression which will be sent away for the mould to be made.



Cochlear implants

- A cochlear implant is an electronic device designed to help individuals with a very severe or profound degree of hearing loss, who gain little or no benefit from hearing aids.
- Cochlear implant systems convert everyday sound into coded electrical impulses. These electrical impulses stimulate the hearing nerve and the brain interprets them as sound.
- It consists of two parts: an internal implant that is put in place under surgery and an external part known as the speech processor.
- The speech processor is worn behind the ear.



Types of hearing loss

Conductive hearing loss

- Any problem in the outer or middle ear can block the normal sound path to the inner ear and cause a conductive hearing loss.
- Conductive losses are usually mild or moderate in degree, causing hearing loss of up to 50-60 decibels.
- This is often a temporary type of hearing loss such as caused by ear infection, blocked nose or colds but in rare cases may get worse over time or even be permanent.

Sensorineural hearing loss

- Any damage to the sensitive inner ear hair cells can lead to a sensorineural hearing loss.
- The degree of hearing loss can range from mild through moderate to a severe or profound hearing loss.
- This is a permanent type of hearing loss that will not get better but can some times get worse. It is possible for someone to have a conductive loss in addition to a sensorineural loss.

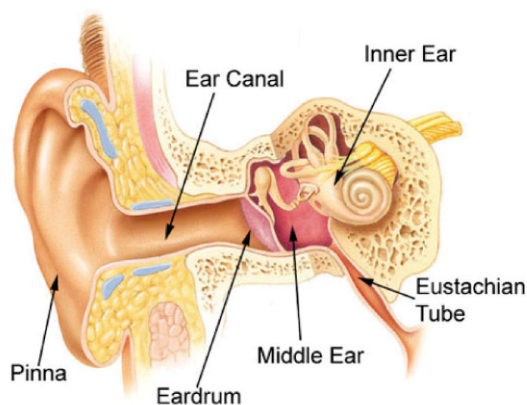


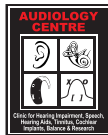
Diagram showing the parts of the ear



Printed in Public Interest

Supported by:

MED[®]EL
COCHLEAR IMPLANT
www.medel.com
www.medelpk.com



AUDI MED
HEARING HEALTH CARE
www.audimedpk.com

For further information please contact us at +92-331-8455203

63-3A, Liberty Homes, Block D-1, Opp. Hijaz Hospital, Sir Syed Road,
Gulberg III, Lahore - Pakistan. Ph: +92-42-35771114-5, Fax: +92-42-35771116
Mobile: +92-300-8447799, www.audiologycentre.org