

Hearing Loss

Hearing loss is a sudden or gradual decrease in being able to hear.

There are different types of hearing loss:

- **Conductive Hearing Loss**
Sound is blocked. This is often caused by earwax build up.
- **Sensorineural Hearing Loss**
A nerve problem prevents proper hearing. This is often caused by aging.
- **Mixed**
Hearing loss where both the conductive and sensorineural systems are affected.

Causes

- Aging
- Loud noise exposure
- Blockage
- Ear infection
- Certain medicines
- Ear and head injury
- Some illnesses
- Born with an ear problem
- Family members with hearing loss

Signs

- Sounds are muffled.
- High pitched sounds are hard to hear.
- Words are difficult to understand when there is background noise.