

Types of Hearing Loss

Hearing loss affects men, women and children of all ages and walks of life. There are three classifications of hearing loss: conductive, sensorineural and mixed. Each type of hearing loss has unique symptoms, causes and treatment options. Let's explore all three types.

Conductive Hearing Loss

This type of hearing loss occurs when the outer or middle section of the ear prevents sound from being transferred to the inner ear. The most common causes of conductive hearing loss are:

- Allergies
- Benign tumors
- Fluid in the middle ear
- Impacted ear wax
- Perforated eardrums
- Poor Eustachian tube function
- Malformation of the outer or middle ear or ear canal
- Presence of a foreign body

Treatment options vary depending on the severity of hearing loss. They include surgery, medications, hearing aids, or an implantable direct bone conduction system.

Sensorineural Hearing Loss

This type of hearing loss most frequently occurs within the inner ear rather than the hearing nerve. Some causes of acquired sensorineural hearing loss are:

- Aging (presbycusis)
- Autoimmune inner ear disease
- Head trauma
- Hereditary hearing loss
- Malformation of the inner ear
- Meniere's Disease
- Noise exposure

This type of hearing loss is most often treated with hearing aids. More severe cases are treated with cochlear implants.

Mixed Hearing Loss

Caused by a combination of both conductive and sensorineural factors, mixed hearing loss usually occurs when a person has permanent sensorineural hearing loss and then develops temporary conductive hearing loss.

Treatment options vary depending on the severity of hearing loss. Options include surgery, medications, hearing aids, or an implantable direct bone conduction system.

At ***[insert practice name]***, one of our professionals will perform a complete hearing evaluation to determine if you or a loved one has a hearing loss. This will also help us prescribe the right treatment options to help you achieve healthy hearing. To set up your initial appointment, please contact us today at ***[insert phone number]***!