



COMMON EAR DISEASES

Better Hearing Philippines Inc.

TYPES OF HEARING LOSS

1. Conductive Hearing Loss

- hearing loss caused by diseases found in the external or middle ear

2. Sensory Hearing Loss

- hearing loss caused by problems in the cochlea

TYPES OF HEARING LOSS

3. Neural Hearing Loss

- hearing loss caused by damage to any neural pathway that leads to the auditory nerve then to the brain

4. Sensorineural Hearing Loss

- hearing loss arising from either problems in the inner ear or neural pathway

DISEASES OF THE EXTERNAL EAR

1. Boils

(furunculosis or circumscribed otitis media)

Causes:

- Poor Hygiene
- Bacterial Infection



Symptoms:

- Presence of pustule in the skin of the outer ear canal
- Pain when in the ear touched
- Sometimes, there is presence of secretion

Management:

- Draining of abscess from the boil
- Administration of warm compress to reduce pain and inflammation
- **CONSULT YOUR DOCTOR!**

DISEASES OF THE EXTERNAL EAR

2. Swimmer's Ear

(External Otitis or Diffused Otitis Externa)



Causes:

- Poor Hygiene
- Frequent moisture in the ear

Symptoms:

- Presence of swelling in the ear canal
- Severe pain when in the ear touched
- Feeling of clogged ear canal
- Presence of discharge

Management:

- Use of some topical antibiotics or soaks
- Warm compress to alleviate pain
- **CONSULT YOUR DOCTOR!**

DISEASES OF THE EXTERNAL EAR

3. Fungi

Causes:

- Improper ear hygiene resulting in loss of the external auditory canal's acidic property
- Fungal infection



Symptoms:

- Excessive itchiness
- Pain and discharge

Management:

- Advice patient to clean only the external part of the ear canal with dry cotton
- If patient never had infection/discharge, patient can be advised to put vinegar solution in the ear.

DISEASES OF THE MIDDLE EAR

Otitis Media

Causes:

- OM develops if middle ear secretions are unable to drain down the Eustachian tube.
- Fluid will build up and fill the middle ear

DISEASES OF THE MIDDLE EAR

a. Serous Otitis Media

(Otitis Media with Effusion)



Symptoms:

- Presence of fluid in the middle ear with ear drum not inflamed
- Absence of fever
- Ear discomfort is minimal
- Hearing fluctuates

Complications:

- Conductive Hearing Loss
- Retraction of the eardrum

DISEASES OF THE MIDDLE EAR

b. Acute Otitis Media



Symptoms:

- Inflammation of the ear drum
- Presence of pain
- Presence of foul-smelling secretions
- Accompanied with fever
- May have hearing loss

Complications:

- Conductive Hearing Loss
- Perforation of the eardrum

DISEASES OF THE MIDDLE EAR

c. Chronic Otitis Media



Symptoms:

- Presence of foul smelling discharge through the perforation in the ear drum
- Absence of pain
- May have hearing loss

Complications:

- Conductive Hearing Loss
- May affect auditory ossicles and large part of the tympanic cavity
- Brain can also be affected

Management:

- Dry Mopping

**In ALL cases of Otitis Media,
Please CONSULT YOUR DOCTOR!**

DISEASES OF THE INNER EAR

a. Congenital

- Rubella
- Syphilis
- Ototoxic drugs
- Hypoxia
- Jaundice
- Premature birth



b. Acquired

- Age
- Ototoxic drugs
- Viral illnesses
- Prolonged exposure to noise
- Meniere's Disease
- Tumor
- Head trauma
- Bacterial Meningitis



ABC's of Hearing Loss

Risk Factors

A – APGAR score of less than 5 in 5 minutes

B – Bacterial Infection

C – Congenital Hearing Impairment

D – Defects of the head and neck

E – Elevated bilirubin level

F – Gram weight of less than 1500 grams

H – History of NICU confinement

I – Intake of ototoxic drugs