



Conductive Hearing Loss

Resources:



[Conductive hearing loss](#)



[A family's story](#)



[Causes and treatment](#)

- Sound is gathered by the outer ear and moved down the ear canal to the eardrum. The eardrum moves/vibrates in response to the soundwave.
- This movement of the eardrum sets off a chain reaction involving the three bones on the middle ear (malleus, incus and stapes) to the doorway of the inner ear (oval window).
- Conductive hearing loss (CHL) happens when there is an irregularity somewhere in the outer or middle ear. The loss happens because sound cannot be conducted across those areas.
- Sometimes CHL can be due to infection, abnormal growths or malformation of any part of the outer or middle ear structures.
- CHL can range from very mild to severe.
- Temporary or permanent CHL can have a significant impact on babies' ability to learn to listen and talk, so treatment should always be investigated and given as early as possible.
- CHL can often be resolved through medical treatment such as medicines or surgery, and fitting of hearing aids or a Bone Anchored Hearing Aid (BAHA).
- Pediatric Audiologists should work with children with CHL since they are specially trained to work with children rather than adults.

