



NIDCD Fact Sheet Hearing Aids

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES · NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH · NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

What is a hearing aid?

A hearing aid is a small electronic device that you wear in or behind your ear. It makes some sounds louder so that a person with hearing loss can listen, communicate, and participate more fully in daily activities. A hearing aid can help people hear more in both quiet and noisy situations. However, only about one out of five people who would benefit from a hearing aid actually uses one.

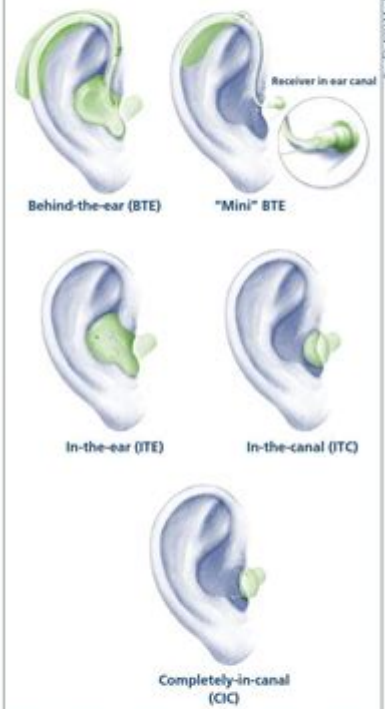
A hearing aid has three basic parts: a microphone, amplifier, and speaker. The hearing aid receives sound through a microphone, which converts the sound waves to electrical signals and sends them to an amplifier. The amplifier increases the power of the signals and then sends them to the ear through a speaker.

How can hearing aids help?

Hearing aids are primarily useful in improving the hearing and speech comprehension of people who have hearing loss that results from damage to the small sensory cells in the inner ear, called hair cells. This type of hearing loss is called sensorineural hearing loss. The damage can occur as a result of disease, aging, or injury from noise or certain medicines.

A hearing aid magnifies sound vibrations entering the ear. Surviving hair cells detect the larger vibrations and convert them into neural signals that are passed along to the brain. The greater the damage to a person's hair cells, the more severe the hearing loss, and the greater the hearing aid amplification needed to make up the difference. However, there are practical limits to the amount of amplification a hearing aid can provide. In

Styles of hearing aids



addition, if the inner ear is too damaged, even large vibrations will not be converted into neural signals. In this situation, a hearing aid would be ineffective.



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Nidcd Fact Sheet Hearing And

NIDCD Fact Sheet | Hearing and Balance . Tinnitus . What is tinnitus? Tinnitus is commonly described as a ringing in the ears, but it also can sound like roaring, clicking, hissing, or buzzing. It may be soft or loud, high pitched or low pitched. You might hear it in either one or both ears. Roughly 10 percent of the adult population of the

NIDCD Fact Sheet | Hearing and Balance

NIDCD Fact Sheet | Hearing and Balance. Sudden Deafness . What is sudden deafness? Sudden sensorineural (“inner ear”) hearing loss (SSHL), commonly known as sudden deafness, is an unexplained, rapid loss of hearing either all at once or over a few days. SSHL happens because there is something wrong with the sensory organs of the inner ear. Sudden deafness

NIDCD Fact Sheet | Hearing and Balance

NIDCD Fact Sheet Assistive Devices for People with Hearing, Voice, Speech, or Language Disorders hearing b U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES • NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH • NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DEAFNESS AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DISORDERS alance What are assistive devices? The terms assistive device or assistive technology can

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treatment plan. (Read the NIDCD fact sheet “Hearing Aids” at <https://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/hearing-aids> for more information.)} Cochlear implants. Cochlear (COKE-lee-ur) implants are small electronic devices surgically implanted in the inner ear that help provide a sense of sound to people who are profoundly deaf or hard-of-hearing. If your hearing loss is

NIDCD Fact Sheet Hearing and Balance

NIDCD Fact Sheet Usher Syndrome hearing balance Genetic disorders can be caused by one or more changes in a gene. Every individual has two copies of the same gene. Genetic disorders are inherited in different ways. Usher syndrome is a recessive disorder. Recessive means: • A person must inherit a change in the same gene from each parent in order to have the disorder. • A person with one ...

NIDCD Fact Sheet Usher Syndrome

NIDCD supports and conducts research and research training on the normal and disordered processes of hearing, balance, smell, taste, voice, speech, and language and provides health information, based hearing, balance smell, taste voice, speech, language upon scientific discovery, to the public. NIDCD Fact Sheet: Tinnitus Publication No. 10-4896

NIDCD Fact Sheet Tinnitus - Hearing Aids

NIDCD Fact Sheet | Hearing and Balance. Vestibular Schwannoma (Acoustic Neuroma) and Neurofibromatosis . What is a vestibular schwannoma (acoustic neuroma)? A vestibular schwannoma (also known as acoustic neuroma, acoustic neurinoma, or acoustic neurilemoma) is a benign, usually slow-growing tumor that develops from the balance and hearing nerves supplying the inner ear. The tumor comes from ...

Vestibular Schwannoma (Acoustic Neuroma) and ... - NIDCD

NIDCD Fact Sheet | Hearing and Balance. Cochlear Implants. What is a cochlear implant? A cochlear implant is a small, complex electronic device that can help to provide a sense of sound to a person who is profoundly deaf or severely hard-of-

hearing. The implant consists of an external portion that sits behind the ear and a second portion that is surgically placed under the skin (see figure). An ...

Cochlear Implants - NIDCD

The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), conducts and supports research in the normal and disordered processes of hearing, balance, taste, smell, voice, speech, and language.

Home | NIDCD

NIDCD-supported researchers have helped to identify some of the many genes important for hair-cell development and function and are using this knowledge to explore new treatments for hearing loss. Researchers are also looking at the protective properties of supporting cells in the inner ear, which appear to be capable of lessening the damage to sensory hair cells upon exposure to noise.

Noise-Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) | NIDCD

The NIDCD supports and conducts research and research training on the normal and disordered processes of hearing, balance, taste, smell, voice, speech, and language and provides health information, based upon scientific discovery, to the public.

Noise-Induced Hearing Loss - alexandriarepository

NIDCD Fact Sheet Noise-Induced Hearing Loss hearing balance may be experienced in one or both ears, and tinnitus may continue constantly or occasionally throughout a lifetime. Continuous exposure to loud noise also can damage the structure of hair cells, resulting in hearing loss and tinnitus, although the process occurs more gradually

NIDCD Fact Sheet Noise-Induced Hearing Loss

NIDCD Fact Sheet | Voice, Speech, and Language . Dysphagia . What is dysphagia? People with dysphagia have difficulty swallowing and may even experience pain while swallowing (odynophagia). Some people may be completely unable to swallow or may have trouble safely swallowing liquids, foods, or saliva. When that happens, eating becomes a challenge. Often, dysphagia makes it difficult to take in ...

NIDCD Fact Sheet | Voice, Speech, and Language

NIDCD Fact Sheet Your Baby’s Hearing and Communicative Development Checklist . What are voice, speech, and language? Voice, speech, and language are the tools we use to communicate with each other. voice is the sound we make as air from our lungs is pushed between vocal folds in our larynx, causing them to vibrate. speech is talking, which is one way to express language. It involves the ...

NIDCD Fact Sheet - American Academy of Pediatrics

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders’s Hearing Aid Fact Sheet

NIDCD Hearing Aid Fact Sheet by Exposing Hearing Aids - Issuu

What is auditory neuropathy? Auditory neuropathy is a hearing disorder in which the inner ear successfully detects sound, but has a problem with sending sound from the ear to the brain. It can affect people of all ages, from infancy through adulthood. The number of people affected by auditory neuropathy is not known, but current information suggests that auditory neuropathies play a ...

What Is Auditory Neuropathy? – Causes & Treatment | NIDCD

Hearing Loss? Tweens are at an age when they begin to act more independently. Now is a great time to teach them about protecting their hearing from noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL). Children, just like adults, are at risk for NIHL. This type of hearing loss occurs when tiny sensory hair cells in the inner ear are damaged by noises that are too loud and that last for too long. NIHL can be ...

Why Teach Tweens about Noise-Induced Hearing Loss?

During National Protect Your Hearing Month in October—and throughout the year—the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) offers science-based resources to help you maintain your hearing health, according to an announcement on the organization’s website. Anyone can develop NIHL at any age.

NIDCD Announces Public Education Campaign for 'National ...

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