



# Hearing Loss: A common problem

A recent study revealed that 22% of Australians 15 years and over have some form of hearing impairment. In people ages 71 and over, this rises to 74% of the population. The most common causes of hearing loss in older adults include exposure to loud noises, family history or simply the natural ageing process.

Hearing loss can restrict your ability to interact with others, create misunderstandings and fatigue, heighten stress and filter out myriad sound experiences which give so much pleasure and meaning to life. Untreated hearing loss also has some serious safety implications: just imagine not being able to hear a smoke detector or traffic when you're crossing the road.

#### Are you aware of the problem?

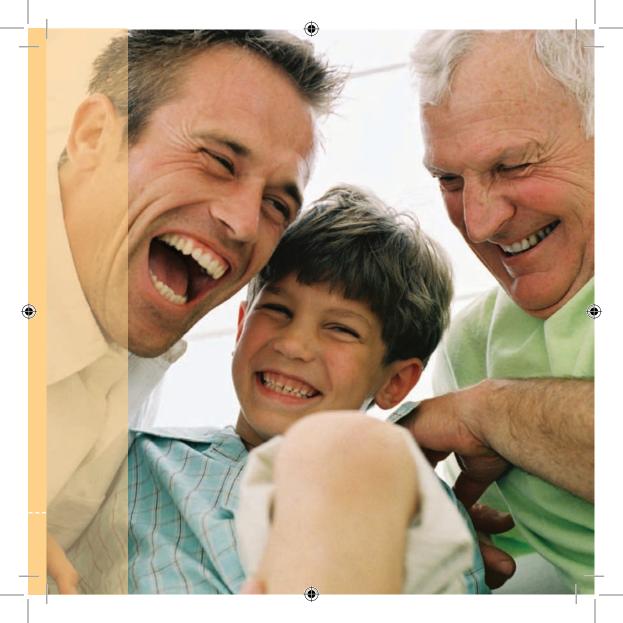
Hearing loss is an invisible disability. It is typical for people with mild to moderate hearing loss to be unaware of their problem, even though family and friends may notice it. The real reason hearing loss 'sneaks up' on you is that the change is usually very gradual.

#### Do I have a hearing problem?

Most hearing losses develop over several years, slowly eroding quality of lifestyle and creating communication problems for the person involved. The best way to assess your hearing is via a professional hearing test performed by a qualified Audiologist. However, your hearing could be deteriorating if you show any of the following signs commonly associated with hearing loss:

- asking people to repeat what they've said
- ringing, buzzing, hissing or roaring sounds in your ears
- turning up the volume on the TV, radio or stereo
- complaining that 'people mumble'
- misunderstanding conversations
- relying on others to explain the general gist of conversations
- difficulty understanding speech in a noisy environment
- undue fatigue and stress at the end of the day
- strained personal and family relationships
- staying home to avoid social situations

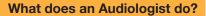
If you experience any of these symptoms, or you just feel that your hearing is not as good as it used to be, it is time to see an Audiologist.



# Take the first step: see an Audiologist.

If you think you have a hearing problem, the first step is to see an Audiologist who will evaluate your hearing and determine the type and degree of your hearing loss. An Audiologist is a professional with post-graduate university qualifications and extensive training and skills. They can diagnose and manage hearing loss in adults and children. Your Audiologist will recommend a course of action which may help alleviate your hearing problem. If your hearing problem requires medical or surgical treatment, your Audiologist will refer you to a specialist.





Your Audiologist will conduct a comprehensive diagnostic hearing assessment. You will be asked questions about your medical and hearing history, after which they will perform a visual examination of your eardrums and ear canals.

Following this, you will be seated in a purpose-built sound-treated room or booth. You will be asked to listen to a series of soft tones in each ear and indicate each time you hear the signal.

Your understanding of speech words will also be evaluated. Special equipment may be used to evaluate other important aspects of your hearing abilities. Upon completion of these tests, your Audiologist will explain the results. If you are diagnosed with significant hearing

loss in one or both ears, your Audiologist will discuss various options to help you overcome your problem. The most common recommendation for helping sensorineural (nerve-type) hearing loss is hearing aids.

If a hearing aid is recommended, your Audiologist will schedule a comprehensive hearing aid evaluation to determine which type, style and model of hearing aids is best for you. They will also take into account your lifestyle and budget.

Your Audiologist will then fit your hearing aid and provide follow-up care and special training for you and your family so you can really enjoy the benefits of your improved hearing!

### Hearing aids greatly enhance quality of life

Is your hearing impairment severely affecting your quality of life? A hearing aid can change it for the better!

In the United States, The Council on Ageing has shown that people with hearing loss may display signs of reduced social interaction, depression, anxiety, emotional turmoil, insecurity and general health problems.

Patients who use hearing aids report stronger personal relationships, better self-esteem and improved mental health.

Hearing aids help millions of people to hear, communicate better and participate in life more fully.





## Ear & Hearing Australia can bring your hearing back to life!

The good news is that there are many different options available to people who experience hearing loss.

Make an appointment with us and have a full hearing assessment conducted by one of our in-house Audiologists.

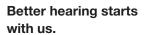
Ear & Hearing Australia employs only University trained Audiologists so you can be assured you're being cared for by the very best in their field.

We have no affiliation with specific hearing aid manufacturers which means we offer impartial advice on the best hearing aid for your specific needs.

#### Why choose Ear & Hearing Australia?

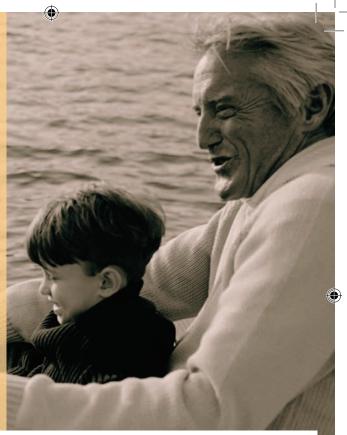
Our professional, friendly and caring staff take immense pride in finding hearing solutions and providing ongoing care for every one of our clients. We also deliver a wonderful range of services which really sets us apart from other hearing centres:

- we provide expert advice and full hearing assessments by University-trained Audiologists
- we are an accredited Work Cover provider
- we are a members of the Audiological Society of Australia (ASA) and the Health Insurance Commission (HIC)
- we are government accredited to provide FREE hearing aids and services to eligible pensioners and veterans
- we are independently owned and operated and do not align ourselves with any hearing aid manufacturers. Instead, we offer the best solution from a wide range of manufacturers
- we offer a 30 day trial period on all hearing aids
- we offer an After Care Rehabilitation program which includes Hearing Workshops to provide additional support to our clients - especially those who are wearing hearing aids for the first time
- we offer unlimited free consultations and adjustments for 12 months on all new hearing aids
- we offer discounts on future tests, batteries and other accessories
- we give you the choice of an interest-free payment plan

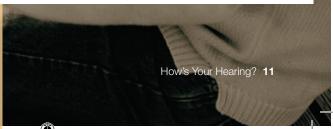


Hearing loss can occur so gradually you may not even realise it's happening.

Contact us today and make an appointment for a comprehensive hearing evaluation by one of our experienced Audiologists.



Call 1800 HEARING (1800 432 746) & bring your hearing back to life today!



#### **Clinic Locations:**

#### **KEW**

2 Cotham Rd Ph: (03) 9853 3828

#### **CAMBERWELL**

367 Camberwell Rd Ph: (03) 9882 5577

#### **RESERVOIR**

43 Edwards St Ph: (03) 9853 3828

#### **MALVERN**

35 Glenferrie Rd Ph: (03) 9509 1830

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Helping people hear better for life

