



Hearing Impairment

It's not always easy to tell if you're losing your hearing.

Common signs include:

Difficulty hearing other people clearly, and misunderstanding what they say, especially in noisy places asking people to repeat themselves

Listening to music or watching television loudly

Having to concentrate hard to hear what other people are saying, which can be tiring or stressful

The signs can be slightly different if you only have hearing loss in one ear or if a young child has hearing loss.

Read more about the signs and symptoms of hearing loss.

When to get medical help

Your GP can help if you think you're losing your hearing.

If you or your child suddenly lose hearing (in one or both ears), call your GP or NHS 111 as soon as possible.

If you think your or your child's hearing is getting gradually worse, make an appointment to see your GP.

If you're concerned about a friend's or family member's hearing, encourage them to see their GP.

Your GP will ask about your symptoms and look inside your ears using a small hand-held torch with a magnifying lens.

They can also do some simple checks of your hearing.

If needed, they can refer you to a specialist for more hearing tests.

Hearing Impairment Helpline
0808 808 0123

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