

HEARING PROBLEMS IN CHILDREN



What are four major impacts that hearing impairment can cause on a child?

- Delayed speech and language skills.
 - Learning problems in school.
 - Feeling bad about him/herself
 - Having trouble making friends

Signs of hearing loss in your baby can include:

- Not being startled by loud sounds.
- Not turning toward a sound after he's 6 months old.
- Not saying single words like "mama" or "dada" by the time he's 1 year old.
- Turns his head if he sees you, but not if you only call out his name.
- Seems to hear some sounds but not others.

HEARING PROFESSIONALS USE THESE IMPORTANT 1-3-6 BENCHMARKS FOR TESTING HEARING

- 1 MO BEFORE ONE MONTH OF AGE: HEARING SCREEN
- 3 MO BEFORE 3 MONTHS OF AGE
- 6 MO BEFORE 6 MONTHS OF AGE: EARLY INTERVENTION

What causes hearing loss?

Among Newborns

- Family history
- Maternal infections during pregnancy
 - Premature birth
 - Low oxygen levels at birth
- Severe jaundice immediately after birth is a risk factor for neonates.

Among Children

- Infections like meningitis, measles, mumps, or discharge from the ears
 - Taking specific medications
 - Head or ear injury
 - Exposure to loud noises in any situation
- Excessively loud personal audio device use
- Wax or Foreign bodies blocking the ear canal

What can you do to avoid hearing loss?

- Never put anything in a child's ear, even to clean it.
- Teach kids never to put anything in their ears.
 - Take your kid to the doctor if they complain of pain, blockage, or discharge coming from the ear.
 - Don't let kids swim in dirty water.
- Don't hit or cause trauma to the child's head.
- Protect kids' ears from loud noises.

