



## Hearing Loss Due to Some Medications

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**Received date:** 02 March, 2021; **Accepted date:** 17 March, 2021;

**Published Date:** 24 March, 2021

Hearing loss can affect one or both ears and can range from moderate to severe. There are a variety of triggers, and it can strike anyone at any age, but it is most common in people over 60. Hearing problems and misinterpretation of what others say are early signs of hearing loss, particularly in noisy environments. Requesting that people repeat themselves. Listening to music or watching TV at a rate that is higher than appropriate for most people. Hearing loss is caused by both ageing and long-term exposure to loud noises. Excessive earwax, for example, will temporarily reduce how well your ears conduct sounds.

Most forms of hearing loss are irreversible. You should, however, consult with your doctor or a hearing specialist to improve your hearing. Hearing loss is a disease that occurs when some portion of your ear fails to function properly. It's the third most common health issue in the United States, and it can have a significant impact on your life and relationships. Approximately 48 million Americans have a degree of hearing loss. About 5% of the world's population, or 430 million individuals, need rehabilitation for their "disabling" hearing loss (432 million). Children with hearing loss and deafness are often excluded from education in developed countries. Adults with hearing loss are often more likely to be unemployed. As compared to the general population, a higher proportion of individuals with hearing loss are working in lower levels of jobs. If you can't hear sound with one or both ears, you've got hearing loss. According to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), approximately 25% of people aged 65 to 74 have hearing loss.

Sound waves pass through the fluids of the cochlea to enter the inner ear. The inner ear's cochlea is a snail-shaped structure. Thousands of tiny hairs are bound to nerve cells in the cochlea. These hairs assist in the conversion of sound wave vibrations into electrical signals, which are then transmitted to the brain. These electrical signals are converted into sound by your brain. Different sound waves trigger various reactions in these tiny hairs, signalling the brain with different sounds. According to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), there are three forms of hearing loss. Conduction hearing loss, sensorineural hearing loss (SNHL), and mixed hearing loss are the three most common forms of hearing loss. Hearing loss is also so gradual that it goes unnoticed.

You may believe that people are mumbling more, that your spouse should speak up, or that you need a better phone. You should believe your hearing is perfect as long as some sound is still coming in. Hearing loss is most often caused by advanced age. Hearing loss affects one out of every three people aged 65 to 74. After the age of 75, one out of every two people is affected. Researchers aren't sure why hearing deteriorates with age. It's possible that long-term exposure to noise and other harmful factors wears down the fragile mechanics of the ears. Your genes are also a part of who you are. When you're around noises as loud as or louder than traffic, use earplugs. Lawn mowers, power sanders, vacuum cleaners, and most concerts are all loud enough to inflict hearing loss to those who aren't wearing hearing protection. If at all possible, get as far away from the source of the noise as possible. When walking past a noisy road construction site, for example, cross the street or cover your ears.