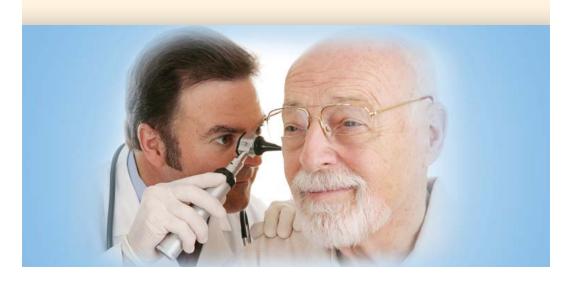
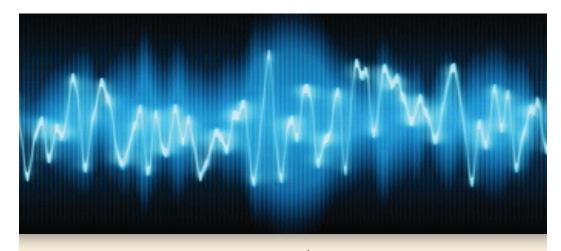
ROBINSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL



AUDIOLOGY SERVICES HEARING AIDS







ROBINSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUDIOLOGY SERVICES

What is an Audiologist?

Audiologists specialize in the prevention, evaluation and non-medical treatment of hearing loss. Audiologists go through many years of education and training in all areas of hearing disorders and are also qualified to recognize symptoms or results that require medical referral.

Services provided

- Hearing tests on all ages
- Newborn hearing screenings
- Hearing aid fitting/care/repairs
- Aural (hearing) rehabilitation
- ENG/balance testing
- Neurodiagnostic testing of auditory nerve
- Hearing conservation devices
- Noise monitoring

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Hearing aids

The newest hearing aids are made with digital circuitry; designed to detect, process and reproduce sounds clearly and are tailored for each person's own hearing loss and listening needs. Some can connect directly to telephones, televisions and music players.

Hearing aids come in many shapes and sizes; from the smallest that fit deeply into the ear canal, to the newest styles fitting discreetly over the ear.

There are options to fit almost all sound and appearance needs.

Assistive listening devices (ALDs)

ALDs are separate pieces of equipment which work in special situations: devices to amplify your telephone or your television; special alarm clocks with loud signals or vibrating devices; smoke alarms with a strobe light; or devices that can alert you to environmental sounds like a doorbell, knock on the door, a crying baby, etc.

What's included

Robinson Memorial Hospital offers more than just the hearing aid itself. You enter into a long-term relationship with the audiologist, with decades of experience in hearing healthcare. The purchase price of hearing aids includes not only the product itself, but the time and expertise of the audiologist and staff.

Supplies

- Start-up supply of batteries
- Carrying case
- · Cleaning tools
- Battery carrier
- Instruction booklets
- Parts and supplies for professional maintenance

Professional services

- Initial hearing aid consult
- Ear impressions or measurements
- Programming or initial settings
- Initial fitting and training session
- \bullet Planned follow-up sessions for counseling, care and adjustments
- Post-fitting testing (objective and/or subjective)
- Other follow-up sessions for counseling, care, adjustments and repairs (during warranty period)





What to expect

Initial visit

After completing a hearing evaluation from an audiologist, test results will be explained and recommendations made. If test results show symptoms of a medical problem or if you are under 18 years of age and need hearing aids you will be referred to your physician. This is not only required by law, it is in your best interest, as some types of hearing loss can be corrected with medical treatment. For others, serious disease must be ruled out before hearing aids are fit.

Generally, two hearing aids are recommended for most people as the use of both ears provides more natural sound, improves speech understanding in noisy places and maintains the ability to localize sounds. At the initial visit, molds of ears might be made to ensure hearing aids are formed to your ears correctly.

Fitting

New hearing aids are typically ready within two weeks of ordering and fitting appointments are scheduled once the audiologist has checked and set the devices. The audiologist will explain the care and use of the hearing aids, and you will have the opportunity to practice everything while at the fitting. Directions will be provided on: how to wear hearing aids; use of functions; proper handling and care; battery use; how to obtain best benefit; and how to troubleshoot problems. It is best to bring a family member or friend to the fitting as there will be a lot of information provided. At any time you need more explanation or clarification, ask the audiologist.

Follow-up

There will be at least one or two follow-up visits in the first month where adjustments are made to fine-tune sounds according to your needs. Training and instructions are reviewed and questions answered.

Follow-up testing with special measurement devices and questionnaires will be performed. Other follow-up sessions occur at three months, six months, one year and two years (for most models).

There is a 30-day trial period where hearing aids may be returned after the purchase date if not satisfied. Hearing aids must be in good working order with no

damage to receive a refund of payments; minus a trial fee.

Hearing aids are covered by a warranty; typically for two years. During this time, all adjustments, check-ups and repairs at Robinson Memorial Hospital are covered at no extra charge. For the first year, the warranty also provides a one-time replacement for lost hearing aids with a low fee. An extended warranty or special hearing aid insurance is also available.





Expectations

Hearing loss usually happens gradually over many years, so it will take time to learn how to listen again with your new hearing aids. It may take several weeks or even months to become comfortable with the new sounds.

Some of these sounds may seem louder than anything else at first because they are 'new' to you and you might focus on them more (e.g., ticking clocks, traffic sounds, restaurants, etc). Although hearing aids must be worn on a regular basis to adjust to those sounds, over time you can teach yourself to ignore them nearly as well as before.

Hearing aids help to hear better in most places. There might still be difficulty hearing in loud rooms or with large groups of people. Newer hearing aids reduce background noises better than ever before, but these noises are rarely fully removed. The longer and more steadily hearing aids are worn, the better you will hear.

All experiences in hearing again are different, as hearing loss is different for each person.

Always feel comfortable calling the audiologist with any questions or concerns you may have.

They are here to help.

The most important predictor of success with hearing aids is acceptance of your hearing loss and your own desire to improve it. Expect to hear better and enjoy the sounds of your life!

Advantages

Studies have shown improved mental, emotional and physical well-being with proper fittings of hearing aids. For people of working age, earning ability may also be enhanced.

Protect your hearing

Some causes of hearing loss cannot be changed, such as inherited loss, but one of the major causes of hearing loss is noise exposure. This damage can be prevented.

Most people realize that firing guns or working in a noisy factory can cause hearing loss, but damage can build up over time from using lawn mowers, power tools, snow blowers, etc. Always protect your ears. Avoid loud noises whenever possible. Turn down the music volume and wear protection (ear plugs or ear muffs) whenever around loud sounds.

For an appointment, please call (330) 297-2338.

The Demographics of Hearing Loss

http://www.earinfo.com/hearing-aid-statistics

- One out of ten Americans have a hearing loss.
- An estimated 500 million experience hearing loss worldwide.
- One out of twelve 30-year-old Americans is already hearing-impaired.
- One out of eight 50-year-old Americans suffer from hearing loss.
- Three out of 1,000 children are born with hearing loss.
- An estimated 1.4 million children in the U.S. have hearing loss.
- The majority (65%) of people with hearing loss are below retirement age.
- 15% of "baby-boomers" have hearing loss.
- 29% of people over age 65 have hearing loss.
- The majority (60%) of people with hearing loss are males.
- More than a third of all hearing loss is attributed to noise: loud music,
 loud workplaces, loud recreational equipment.
- Of the 10 million Americans aged 45 to 64 who have significant hearing loss, only one out of seven wears hearing aids.



The mission of Robinson Memorial Hospital is to provide high-quality, caring and cost-effective services to the residents of Portage County and surrounding communities. The second-largest employer in the county, Robinson Memorial Hospital includes an urgent care facility; free-standing comprehensive imaging facilities; a network of physician practices; and health centers and medical facilities throughout Portage County.

Robinson Memorial Hospital is recognized as one of the best places to work in Northeast Ohio by the Employers Resource Council and has been designated a Magnet hospital by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Magnet recognizes quality patient care and nursing excellence and provides consumers with the ultimate benchmark to measure the quality of care they can expect to receive. Robinson Memorial Hospital is an affiliate member of Summa Health System.

Audiology Department

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