



Who Needs a Hearing Evaluation?

Patients who need to see a hearing healthcare specialist

- Difficulty picking out words in the presence of background noise
- Reports that everybody mumbles
- Difficulty hearing women and children's voices
- Speaks loudly
- Have history of falls; or have problems with balance or dizziness
- Depression, worry, anxiety, or unexplained tiredness
- Complaints of Tinnitus
- Patients exposed to high noise levels
- Presents with risk factors for hearing loss

Risk factors for hearing loss

- Age above 50 years
- Cardiovascular Disease, Hypertension – 3x greater incidence of hearing loss
- Diabetes – 2x greater incidence of hearing loss
- Obesity – 2x greater incidence of hearing loss
- Smoke, past smoker or exposed to second hand smoke – 2x greater incidence of hearing loss
- Dizziness, light-headedness, imbalance / or vertigo may co-exist with hearing loss
- Socially withdrawn and/or symptoms of depression
- Usage of ototoxic medications – Salicylates (aspirin and NSAIDS) Aminoglycosides (Antibiotics), Loop Diuretics, and Antineoplastic Agents (Anti-Cancer Drugs)