

Can I do anything to prevent middle ear problems?

Middle ear problems are common in young children.

There are some things you can do to help your child's ears stay healthy:

- Breastfeed your child.
- Practice good hand washing to stop germs from spreading.
- Keep your child away from second-hand smoke.

Where to get help

Public Health Hearing Clinics

Abbotsford

#104 - 34194 Marshall Road, Abbotsford
Tel: 604-864-3468 Fax: 604-864-3410

Burnaby

#105 - 4946 Canada Way, Burnaby
Tel: 604-918-7663 Fax: 604-918-7660

Chilliwack

45470 Menholm Road, Chilliwack
Tel: 604-702-4944 Fax: 604-702-4971

Cloverdale

#103A - 17790 56th Avenue, Surrey
Tel: 604-575-6381 Fax: 604-574-2091

Guildford

#100 - 10233 153rd Street, Surrey
Tel: 604-587-4751 Fax: 604-587-4777

Langley

20389 Fraser Highway, Langley
Tel: 604-539-2904 Fax: 604-514-8036

Maple Ridge

#400 - 22470 Dewdney Trunk Road, Maple Ridge
Tel: 604-476-7070 Fax: 604-476-7077

New Westminster

#105 - 80A Sixth Street, New Westminster
Tel: 604-777-6855 #526616 Fax: 604-525-3803

North Delta

3rd Floor, 11245 84th Avenue, Delta
Tel: 604-507-5404 Fax: 604-591-7382

Audiology Department

upon specialist referral

Abbotsford Regional Hospital

32900 Marshall Road, Abbotsford
Tel: 604-851-4700 Fax: 604-851-4872

Surrey Memorial Hospital

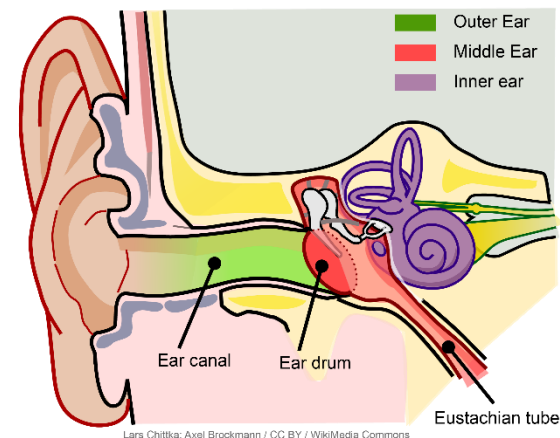
13750 96th Avenue, Surrey
Tel: 604-585-5674 Fax: 604-585-5568

www.fraserhealth.ca

This information does not replace the advice given to you by your health care provider.

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To order: patienteduc.fraserhealth.ca

Middle Ear Problems



Audiology



What do I need to know about middle ear problems?

The middle ear is part of the ear you cannot see. It is inside your child's ear. If children have middle ear problems that last for a long time, it may affect the way they hear. It may affect the way they learn to speak.

What are some middle ear problems?

- Middle ear fluid
- Middle ear infection
- Blocked Eustachian Tubes
(say *you-stay-shun* - the tube that connects the middle ear and the back of the nose)
- Hole in the eardrum

My child has middle ear fluid. Does this mean he has an ear infection?

Not necessarily. Your child can have middle ear fluid without having an ear infection. An ear infection happens when the fluid contains bacteria.

What are some signs of an ear infection?

- Pulling on the ear
- Pain in the ear
- Not sleeping well
- Not eating well
- Fever
- Colds
- Problems with hearing

How can I tell if my child has trouble hearing?

You may notice that your child:

- may not pay attention to what you say
- may ask you to repeat things you say
- may turn up the sound on the TV
- may speak loudly
- may not speak clearly

What should I do?

Contact your doctor.

Your doctor may send your child to an Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) specialist to be checked and/or to an audiologist for a hearing test.