



Adelaide
HEARING

TYPES OF HEARING LOSS

Hearing loss is classified as:

Conductive – middle or outer ear issue (wax, fluid, ossicular problems)

Sensorineural – cochlear or neural (age-related, noise exposure, ototoxicity)

Mixed – combination of both Auditory processing disorder – central

Early, accurate diagnosis improves outcomes and requires full audiological and tympanometric assessment – screening tests alone cannot reliably differentiate type or site of lesion.



WHEN TO REFER

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- ✓ Any suspected hearing loss not explained by obvious conductive cause
- ✓ Asymmetrical or unilateral loss
- ✓ Sudden or rapidly progressive loss
- ✓ Associated tinnitus or balance issues
- ✓ Paediatric patients or complex cases

