Hearing Aid Evaluation Information

Once you have been diagnosed with hearing loss, it is recommended that you undergo a hearing aid evaluation. This appointment will last approximately 1 hour, and you will meet with an audiologist to determine which hearing aids will be most beneficial for you. Prior to this evaluation, you may find it helpful to read the following general information about hearing aids:

- If you have hearing loss in both ears, the recommendation will be for two hearing aids.
- The majority of hearing aids currently dispensed are the “over-the-ear” style, in which a discrete hearing aid tucks behind the ear and sound is sent into the ear via a thin tube that rests in the ear canal.
- Hearing aids utilize digital sound processing and are programmed via a computer for your specific hearing loss.
- Hearing aids are generally not covered by insurance.
- The cost of hearing aids begins at approximately $2,200 per pair and increases with the sophistication of the devices. More advanced hearing aids are needed in cases of steeply sloping hearing loss, low percentages of speech understanding, or increased difficulty understanding speech when background noise is present.
- The style and model of hearing aids will be determined during the hearing aid evaluation. It will take approximately 2-3 weeks for the devices to arrive at the clinic after being ordered. If you wish to order hearing aids at the time of your evaluation, a fitting will be scheduled for two weeks after the evaluation. During the hearing aid fitting, the devices will be programmed, and we will explain how to maintain and care for them.
- Once you have been fitted with hearing aids, you will be scheduled to return for a hearing aid check in approximately 2-3 weeks. During this visit, we will evaluate your satisfaction with the hearing aids and “fine tune” their settings. In the future, hearing aid checks will be scheduled annually or as needed.
- Hearing aids must be paid for in full prior to leaving the clinic with the hearing aids.
- You will have 30 days to evaluate the hearing aids, starting on the day of your fitting. At the end of the 30-day trial period, if you choose to return the hearing aids, you will receive a refund of the original amount paid less $200.
- Hearing aids are covered under the manufacturer’s warranty for all repairs. They also come with one-time loss/damage coverage, which typically lasts 2 years from the date of your hearing aid fitting.
- If you are more than 15 minutes late for your appointment, you may be asked to reschedule due to room limitations and as a courtesy to the patient scheduled immediately after you.

We hope you found this information useful, and we look forward to assisting you with all of your hearing needs!

The Kirklin Clinic of UAB Hospital
Department of Audiology
2000 6th Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35233
Phone: (205) 934-9766