

What should I expect when I come in?

You should expect to spend 2 hours. There is a lot of paperwork that will need to be filled out prior to being seen. Some of it will be done with the audiologist. Please bring with you a comprehensive list of your medications.

A diagnostic hearing evaluation will be done first, if you have not had one already done within the last six months. If you have already had one done, you must bring a copy with you. A Tinnitus Evaluation will be performed. During this test, we try to match the pitch and loudness of your tinnitus. A test for hyperacusis (sound sensitivity) will be performed as well. A series of other diagnostic tests may be necessary, depending on the results of the first two tests.

After the testing, we will discuss in detail why you most likely have your tinnitus, and if there is any medical intervention that can be needed. Tinnitus Retraining Therapy, encompassing sound therapy, and stress reduction techniques will be discussed and demonstrated.

Will Insurance pay for any of this?

Insurance does **NOT** cover Tinnitus appointments (initial and/or follow up), as these appointments are for the Drs time similar to a counseling appointment. If **any** diagnostic testing is performed at your appointment that would be submitted to insurance (providing we participate with your insurance carrier).

Can I have my testing done elsewhere?

Yes, we can provide a list of audiologists in the area who can complete the testing. Most insurance companies will pay for the testing. The diagnostic codes that are typically used are: 92557, 92625, 92588, 92550. Please call your insurance to see if these codes are covered under your plan. Please let the audiologist that you are seeing know that you need certain tests done.

How much should I expect to pay for my initial visit?

The initial office visit is \$200 due at time of booking.

Any diagnostic testing done will be billed to insurance as follows:

92557 Diagnostic Hearing Evaluation (air, bone, speech) \$100

92625 Assessment of Tinnitus \$100

The following tests are done depending upon the results listed above:

92550 Tympanogram/Acoustic Reflexes \$50

92588 Otoacoustic Emissions (12 points) \$70

Treatment Options:

Sound Therapy to be quoted at time if needed

Follow-up Appointment:

TRT session 30 minutes \$100

Telephone appointment up to 15 minutes \$50

How many follow up appointments will I need?

Typically we will see a patient for an initial visit and two 6 week follow up visits. If patients follow all of our recommendations, usually this is all they need to see improvement in their tinnitus. If our recommendations are not taken, then treatment may take much longer. We will decide together how much follow up care is needed.

What causes tinnitus?

There are many different causes. Physical problems that can contribute are bad backs, necks, clenching teeth, etc. Medications can be factor. Stress can cause tinnitus. Hearing loss is usually associated with tinnitus. The appointment is meant to find out why you have your tinnitus and what can be done to help it.