VESTIBULAR (BALANCE) EVALUATIONS

• Various vestibular exams can be completed for patients as young as 10 years old who are having difficulty with dizziness, vertigo, unsteadiness and disequilibrium.

• Balance evaluations are composed of several non-invasive, painless tests of the vestibular system which are analyzed and interpreted by a trained audiologist. These tests require specialized equipment and careful adherence to provided instructions.

CUSTOM SWIM MOLDS

• Avoid potential ear infections by preventing water from getting into your child’s ears with custom-made swim molds, formed perfectly to your child’s ear canal.

ENT, HEARING AND BALANCE CENTER
525 N Keene Street
Columbia, MO 65201
(573) 882-4327
AUDIOLOGY SERVICES
The ability to hear well is necessary for spoken communication and is especially vital for children who are developing language skills. Hearing loss in children may be more common than parents realize. In fact, in 2019, the World Health Organization estimated 34 million children worldwide have a “disabling hearing loss.”

The hearing experts at our ENT, Hearing and Balance Center work closely with both our ear, nose and throat (ENT) and children’s therapy specialists to offer full-service pediatric hearing services to our youngest patients. Our certified audiologists use age-appropriate and clinically-proven techniques to diagnose and treat your child’s hearing loss and balance disorders.

HEARING EVALUATIONS
We offer hearing evaluations to infants as young as six months, which include a behavioral assessment when possible (physical responses to a set of instructions) and evaluation of middle ear function. We’ll thoroughly discuss results and what they mean for your child, as well as offer our treatment recommendations.

SPECIAL TESTING SERVICES
Our audiologists also provide specialized testing services such as auditory brainstem response (ABR), a non-invasive procedure that measures the function of the auditory nerve in response to sound.

- **Newborn ABR:** ABR screenings are provided to our youngest patients to detect hearing loss in infants from birth to three months.
- **Pediatric ABR:** We offer hearing sensitivity assessments to children with the ABR test. The procedure takes place with or without mild sedation while the child is closely monitored at all times.

HEARING AID SERVICES
- Once hearing loss is diagnosed, your child will see our ENT specialists and be scheduled for a hearing aid evaluation with an audiologist.
- The audiologist will recommend the appropriate hearing aid for your child’s age and level of hearing loss and take earmold impressions if necessary. You’ll also have the option to choose fun hearing aid colors to express your child’s personality. Price, insurance and warranty will be discussed at this appointment.
- At the hearing aid fitting appointment, the audiologist will:
  - Fit and program the hearing aids for your child
  - Verify the settings
  - Educate your family on use, batteries, maintenance and expectations

COCHLEAR IMPLANTS
- Children 12 months and older with severe to profound sensorineural hearing loss in both ears who receive little to no benefit from hearing aids may be a candidate for a cochlear implant.
- Services include evaluation for candidacy, programming of the implant after surgery, aural rehabilitation and follow-up. Cochlear implant equipment, supplies and services are available at our center.

BONE ANCHORED HEARING PROSTHESSES
- Bone anchored hearing prostheses are devices that allow sound to be conducted through the bone instead of the outer and middle ear. They are designed for individuals with conductive or mixed loss, or for single-sided deafness.

Call (573) 882-HEAR (4327) to schedule your initial evaluation with our team today.