A pediatric ear, nose and throat (ENT) doctor is a specialist trained to diagnose and treat children with ear, nose, or throat conditions.

An ear, nose and throat (ENT) doctor (also called an otolaryngologist) may be able to tell you if there is a medical condition in your child’s outer, middle, or inner ear that may have caused the hearing loss. The ENT will ask you questions and do a medical examination of your child. The doctor can also answer any questions about medical treatments. Please see some of our other tip cards for information about other professionals, such as audiologists, speech-language pathologists, and early intervention specialists who may provide services your child needs.

For more information about children’s hearing visit [www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss)

The best care for your child will be provided by ENTs who have training and experience to evaluate and treat infants and young children.
Questions you may want to ask your child’s ear, nose and throat doctor:  

1. Do you have experience in treating babies and children with hearing loss?

2. Do you have the most recent report from my child’s audiologist (hearing specialist)?

3. What type of hearing loss does my child have (sensorineural, conductive, or mixed)?  
   Please explain the terms.

4. Should I make appointments with other health professionals? For example, an eye doctor or a geneticist?

5. Do you think our family should have genetic counseling?

6. Does my child need other tests? For example, scans (CT, MRI); blood, heart (EKG) or urine tests. What will these tests tell you about my child’s hearing loss?

7. Can you tell if my child’s hearing loss will change or get worse?

8. What caused my child’s hearing loss?

9. How do I describe these results to my family?

10. What treatments are available? For example, ear tubes or cochlear implants?

11. Would my child benefit from a hearing aid?

12. Do I need a form signed by you so my child can be fitted with hearing aids?

13. Is a cochlear implant an option for my child?  
   Where can I get more information?

14. How often should my child return for a check-up?

After talking with the ear, nose and throat doctor, I/we learned:

If you have questions or concerns about the care your child receives, you may want to schedule a longer appointment. The following questions can help you better understand your child’s condition and the type of care he or she may receive.