**Hearing Impairment**

**Definition:** hearing loss is also known as hearing impairment which is a partial or total inability to hearing.

**Causes:**

1. Exposure to loud noise
2. Head trauma
3. Virus or diseases
4. Auto immune ear diseases
5. Hearing loss that runs in the family
6. Malformation of inner ear
7. Miners’ disease

**Types:** 3 types

1. Conductive hearing loss

(When hearing loss is due to problem with the air cannal, ear drum or middle cavity)

1. Secondary hearing loss due to nerve related hearing loss
2. Mixed hearing loss

**Qualitative types of hearing test/tuning fork test:**

1. Rinae/weaver test
2. Absolute bone conduction test

**Pathophysiology:**

Hearing loss can be classified as conductive, sensorineural, or both (mixed loss). Conductive hearing loss occurs secondary to lesions in the external auditory canal, tympanic membrane (TM), or middle ear. These lesions prevent sound from being effectively conducted to the inner ear.

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