

Ear Wax & Ear Care in Melbourne

Microsuction by audiologists who specialise in tinnitus and sound sensitivity

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Blocked ears are uncomfortable, and they dull your hearing without you always noticing how much. Ear wax removal at All Ears Hearing is carried out by qualified audiologists using microsuction, the gentlest method available. We look at the ear canal under magnification first, so nothing is done blind, and you can see what we see, before and after.

Tinnitus and sound sensitivity are our main areas of work, so we take particular care with patients whose ears are already sensitive. We take a medical approach: this is not only about clearing a blockage, but about working out what is driving your symptoms, why the wax keeps coming back, and how to get your ear canals back to a normal, healthy state. Where your ear needs an ENT or medical treatment, we recognise it and refer you on.

No referral needed • Call (03) 9886 7157 to book

Our ear wax and ear care appointments

Appointment	What's included	Time	Price
Standard Ear Wax Microsuction	Videoscopy, microsuction and a clear-canal check	15 min	\$93
Extended Ear Health Appointment	Adds consultation, expert opinion and middle-ear check	30 min	\$189
Children's Appointment	All ages, gentle and friendly	30 min	\$239
Emergency Ear Care SAME DAY	Ear pain or a foreign body in the ear	Same day	\$289
Foreign Body Removal	Adults and children, time varies with the object	Varies	Call us

GP report +\$39 with the standard visit. The extended appointment already includes a GP letter where needed. If you have tinnitus or sound sensitivity, please book the 30-minute visit; there is a clinical reason, explained below.

Can ear wax cause tinnitus?

Yes, it can, and in more than one way. The encouraging part is that tinnitus linked to wax or an outer ear problem is often the most treatable kind, because we can deal with the cause rather than only the symptom.

When the ear is fully blocked. If wax blocks the canal completely, less sound reaches the hearing centres of the brain. The brain can react by turning up its own internal volume, and tinnitus appears as a compensatory response. Once the ear is unblocked, many people find the tinnitus settles quickly, sometimes the moment the wax is cleared.

When the nerves in the ear canal are irritated. The skin of the canal carries nerve endings, including branches of the vagus nerve. Inflammation or infection can irritate these nerves and narrow the canal, which tells the brain something is wrong with the ear, and that can produce tinnitus. Treating the outer ear condition often brings real relief, especially when the tinnitus is recent and comes with itching in the canal or an aching ear.

When the jaw joint (TMJ) is involved. The jaw joint sits right beside the ear canal. Wax and outer ear conditions can affect how it moves, which can set off tinnitus or make it worse. Keep up any splint or TMJ treatment, but if the canal itself isn't treated, the tinnitus may not fully settle. The two usually need to be sorted together.

Please tell us if you have tinnitus along with your wax. It changes how we run the appointment, and it means we can give you far more useful feedback while we're looking in your ear. If tinnitus or sound sensitivity remains once the wax is gone, you are already with the right people: tinnitus retraining therapy, hyperacusis and misophonia are what we do every day.

Microsuction when you have tinnitus or sound sensitivity

If you live with tinnitus or sound sensitivity, the noise of the suction itself matters. Rushed microsuction can flare your symptoms, because the ear is exposed to the very thing it reacts to. So we don't rush. We use a slow, gentle technique, with pauses and lower exposure, to clear the wax while protecting you from a setback. A 15-minute appointment is often not the right fit, which is why we ask sensitive-ear patients to book the longer visit.

Children

We remove ear wax for children of all ages. The youngest we have treated was a one-month-old baby who had debris and dried blood lodged in the ear from birth. What we need is for your child to sit fairly quietly. Our approach is warm and friendly, and we take the time to help your child feel comfortable and safe. A child's appointment is the full 30-minute visit (\$239).

How to prepare

Softening the wax beforehand makes removal quicker and more comfortable. For three to four days before your appointment, put a few drops of a wax-softening solution into the affected ear once a day. We recommend Ear Clear Ear Wax Removal drops from the pharmacy; olive oil works well too. If your ear is hurting or sore beforehand, taking Panadol and/or Nurofen about 30 minutes before your visit can make it easier, as long as they suit you.

Emergency ear care and Medicare

For ear pain or a foreign body in the ear, we offer same-day emergency appointments (\$289). We will fit you in or organise an additional clinician so you're seen quickly. Ear wax microsuction doesn't attract a Medicare rebate at an audiology clinic; the only setting where a rebate applies is with an ENT specialist, where waiting lists are often long and fees are generally up to \$500. We bridge that gap for people struggling with outer ear conditions: expert care, seen quickly, without the wait.

Infection control

Your safety in the room is not an afterthought. We use gloves at every appointment, a dedicated ear wax suction room, hand hygiene in line with World Health Organization advice, and all equipment sterilised to guidelines.

Frequently asked questions

How much does ear wax removal cost?

Standard microsuction is \$93. The extended 30-minute ear health appointment, which adds an audiologist consultation and middle ear testing, is \$189. A children's appointment is always the 30-minute visit at \$239. If you book the standard appointment and we need to write to your doctor for further treatment, a GP report is \$39.

Do I need a referral?

No. You can book directly. If your GP has referred you, bring the referral along, but it isn't required.

Is ear wax removal covered by Medicare?

Not at an audiology clinic. The only setting where a Medicare rebate applies to wax microsuction is with an ENT specialist, where waiting lists are often long and fees are generally up to \$500. We bridge that gap: expert outer ear care, seen quickly, at a far lower cost. We'll confirm the fee when you book.

Do you remove foreign objects from the ear?

Yes, for adults and children. We remove objects such as beads, cotton bud tips or insects from the ear canal under magnification. Because the time needed depends on the object, the fee can differ from a standard wax appointment, so give us a call.

Do you offer same-day or emergency appointments?

Yes. For ear pain or a foreign body in the ear, we offer same-day emergency ear care. We'll fit you in or organise an additional clinician so you're seen quickly. Emergency appointments are \$289. Call or email us if you have any questions.

Is microsuction safe?

Yes. It's regarded as the safest method of wax removal. It's done under direct vision and uses no water, so it avoids the risks of syringing. We assess your ear first and stop if anything is uncomfortable.

Can I have it done with a perforated eardrum or grommets?

Yes. This is one of the main reasons people choose microsuction. It stays dry, so it suits ears that shouldn't be flushed, including those with grommets, a perforation, or a history of infection or surgery. Let us know your history when you book.

Does ear wax cause tinnitus?

It can, in a few ways. A fully blocked ear reduces the sound reaching the brain, which can trigger tinnitus as a compensatory response. Irritated nerves in the canal from inflammation or infection can do it too, and the nearby jaw joint can play a part. The good news is that this kind of tinnitus is often very treatable once the cause is addressed.

Will removing the wax get rid of my tinnitus?

Often, yes. When a completely blocked ear is the cause, many people find the tinnitus settles quickly once the ear is cleared, sometimes straight away. If it doesn't fully settle, there may be another driver, and assessing and treating tinnitus is our main area of work.

Can an ear infection or an itchy, aching ear canal cause tinnitus?

Yes. Nerve endings in the canal, including branches of the vagus nerve, can be irritated by inflammation or infection, which signals the brain and can produce tinnitus. Treating the outer ear condition often brings real relief, especially when the tinnitus is recent and comes with itching or aching.

Could my jaw (TMJ) be linked to my ear wax and tinnitus?

It can be. The jaw joint sits right beside the ear canal, so wax and outer ear conditions can affect the joint and set off or worsen tinnitus. Keep up any splint or TMJ treatment, but the ear canal needs treating too, or the tinnitus may not fully settle.

Should I mention my tinnitus when I book?

Please do. If you tell us you have tinnitus along with the wax, we can plan a gentler appointment and give you much more useful feedback while we're examining your ear.

How do I prepare?

Put a few drops of a wax-softening solution in the ear once a day for three to four days beforehand. We recommend Ear Clear Ear Wax Removal drops from the pharmacy, though olive oil is a fine alternative. Softer wax comes away more easily and the appointment is more comfortable.

What drops should I use to soften the wax?

We recommend Ear Clear Ear Wax Removal drops, available from most pharmacies. Use them once a day for three to four days before your appointment. If your ear may be perforated or is discharging, check with us first before using any drops.

My ear is sore before my appointment. What can I do?

If your ear is hurting or sore before you come in, taking Panadol and/or Nurofen about 30 minutes before your appointment can make the visit easier and more comfortable, as long as they are suitable for you. Let us know how you're feeling when you arrive.

Does it hurt, and how long does it take?

For most people it's painless. The standard appointment is 15 minutes; the extended and children's appointments are 30 minutes, which gives us time to work slowly where that's needed. Occasionally, very hard or impacted wax can feel slightly uncomfortable, and we stop straight away if it does.

Can you remove wax from my child's ears?

Yes, for children of any age. The youngest we have treated was one month old. We just need your child to sit fairly quietly, and we take a gentle, friendly approach to help them feel at ease. A child's appointment is the 30-minute visit (\$239).

What if the wax can't all be removed in one visit?

Sometimes wax is too hard or deep to clear safely in a single appointment. If that happens, we soften it and bring you back for a short follow-up, so nothing is rushed.

I wear hearing aids. Can I still have microsuction?

Yes, and it's a good idea. Hearing aid wearers build up more wax, which can block or muffle the devices. We can check your ears and your aids at the same visit.

Can you help with an ear infection or fungal build-up?

Yes. The extended appointment is set up for exactly this. We remove infection-related debris along with the wax and write to your GP if you need medical treatment.

Why do my ears keep getting blocked?

Recurring wax usually has a reason, whether that's narrow or bendy canals, hearing aids or earphones, skin conditions, or how your ears self-clean. We take a medical approach: rather than just clearing it again, we assess what's driving it and work with your doctor to get your canals back to a normal state.

What infection control do you follow?

Gloves at every appointment, a dedicated ear wax suction room, hand hygiene in line with World Health Organization advice, and all equipment sterilised to guidelines.

Book your appointment • (03) 9886 7157 • contact@allearshearing.com.au