

TINNITUS

Not a disease, but a symptom of other underlying health conditions, including reaction in the brain to damage in the ear and auditory system.

OTOTOXICITY

Over 100 classes of drugs commonly used in the U.S. to treat pain, infections and disease can damage the inner ear.

RISK OF FALLS

Hearing loss can cause diminished spatial awareness or reduced attention capacity – which can increase the risk of falls.

DIABETES

Hearing loss occurs almost twice as often in adults who have diabetes than in those who don't, likely due to inner ear changes caused by high blood sugar.



HEART DISEASE

Low-frequency hearing loss and heart disease may be related, due to the inner ear's sensitivity to blood flow.

DEMENTIA

For those 60 years and older, the severity of untreated hearing loss is closely related to the risk of dementia, perhaps due to shared brain pathways.

COGNITIVE DECLINE

Hearing loss may be associated with changed brain structure and reduced brain volume.

VISION LOSS

Decreased sensory awareness from vision and hearing loss makes daily living activities more difficult and may put personal safety at risk.