

Patient Advice and Liaison Service

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) acts on behalf of service users, families and carers to negotiate prompt solutions and help bring about changes in the way that services are developed. As well as providing a confidential advice and support service, PALS will help guide you through the different services available from the NHS.

Tel: 0161 716 3178

Comments and complaints

We want to learn from comments and complaints about our services. If you have any, please speak with a member of staff. Every effort will be made to resolve any concerns and complaining will not cause any difficulties in your care with us. You can also contact the Trust's Complaints Department via post at Trust Headquarters, 225 Old Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 7SR.

Tel: 0161 716 3083

Email: complaints.penninecare@nhs.net

Become a member of our Trust

You can be the voice of your community by electing or becoming a governor or find out more about your local mental health and community services, and receive updates, comment on our plans and get invitations to health events.

Tel: 0161 716 3960

Email: ftmembership.penninecare@nhs.net

Alternative formats

If you need help to understand this information, require it in another format such as large print, spoken (on CD) or Braille, or require it in a different language – speak to a member of staff.

Contact us

Rochdale Audiology

Audiology Department, Floor One, Nye Bevan House,
Maclure Road, Rochdale, OL11 1DN

Tel: 01706 261910 Fax: 01706 261911

SMS (Mobile text) available if
required, please ask.
www.hmr.nhs.uk

Oldham Audiology

Audiology Department, Fourth Floor, Integrated Care Centre,
New Radcliffe Street, Oldham, OL1 1NL

Tel: 0161 621 3472

Fax: 0161 621 3523

Email: pcn-tr.oldham-audiology@nhs.net

Bury Audiology

Audiology Department, Radcliffe Primary Care Centre,
Church Street West, Radcliffe, Bury, Lancashire, M26 2SP

Tel: 01706 837 122

Fax: 01706261911

Email: pcn-tr.AudiologyServicesBury@nhs.net

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 www.penninecare.nhs.uk



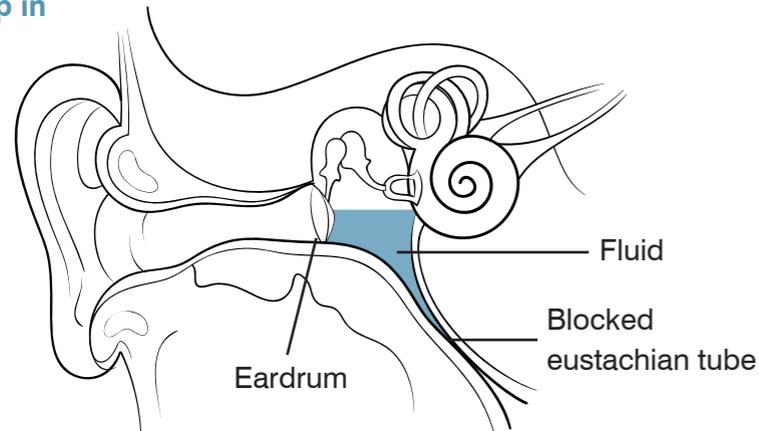
Middle ear effusion in children

Audiology department

What is middle ear effusion?

This is a build up of fluid in the middle part of the ear, which can affect your child's hearing. It is a common problem in childhood, and occurs most frequently from the age of two to six years and by the age of 10 years 80% of children will have had at least one episode of middle ear effusion. It usually happens with coughs and colds and is sometimes referred to as 'glue ear'.

Fluid build up in middle ear:



What needs to be done?

Usually, once the cold is gone, the hearing returns to normal within six-eight weeks. If your child is found to have a hearing loss with middle ear fluid, the audiology department will arrange further appointments. If the middle ear fluid persists, we may recommend that you see an ENT doctor to discuss grommets. Temporary hearing aids could be offered, particularly if your child is having considerable difficulty hearing.

What problems may my child have?

Your child will be aware of sound but it may be unclear and slightly muffled. Listening may be more difficult and your child may appear to daydream, not pay attention or even seem naughty in class.

Children with middle ear fluid often have difficulty hearing in background noise or when spoken to from a distance. Also, locating sounds may be difficult and their hearing may fluctuate so that some days they may appear to hear better than others.

What can I do to help?

If your child is found to have middle ear fluid, ensure they are kept in a smoke free environment, as research has shown that this increases the risk of middle ear effusion.

If the fluid is significantly affecting your child's hearing:

- Mention this to the school teacher, playgroup or nursery leader so that your child can sit at the front of the class whenever possible.
- Get your child's attention before speaking, so they are facing you at short distance and speak in a normal voice.
- Your child may get frustrated if he/she does not hear or understand when someone speaks to him/her. People will have to be patient and be prepared to repeat themselves.

Further information

- Please note, that there is limited parking available
- We accept calls from Relay formally known as Type talk
- Please contact the department in advance if an interpreter is required.
- If you would like any further information please contact the department using the details on the back page