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## ***Sudden Hearing Loss***

Most hearing losses develop gradually over years, but a sudden hearing loss can occur in a matter of minutes or hours. The loss may be accompanied by tinnitus and/or vertigo, but there may be no other symptoms at all. The hearing loss is typically quite severe, and speech in that ear sounds distorted or mechanical, or there may be no hearing at all. While it typically affects just one ear, in some cases it can affect both ears.

The most common causes of sudden hearing loss are viral infections and vascular compromise similar to a stroke. Other possible causes are auto-immune disease, neurological disease such as MS, or a tumor along the hearing nerve leading to the brain. Hearing may improve on its own, but treatment offers a better chance of recovery if it is started within a few days. Treatment options include oral steroids or steroid injections through the eardrum into the middle ear. Antibiotics are not effective in treating this type of hearing loss.

Patients who experience a sudden and severe loss of hearing should see their primary care physician, ENT physician, or audiologist as soon as possible. Unfortunately many patients will wait weeks or even months to see if it gets better before seeking help, and by then it's usually too late for effective treatment. For many of these patients, the loss is so severe that a hearing aid won't help. So be sure you seek help as soon as possible if you experience a sudden change in your hearing.

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## **Celebrating 10 Years of Personalized Service and Care!**

Wake Audiology has been serving this area since 2005 and we have earned the trust of patients and physicians by providing professional care and personal service in a relaxed and friendly environment.

We could not have reached this milestone without your support. Thank you! We look forward to servicing you in the coming years.



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## **Best of the Best**

At Wake Audiology we strive to offer you the best possible service. We know you have choices for hearing care, and we work hard to earn your trust. Please consider voting for us as your favorite Hearing Care provider. Voting ends August 21. Thank you for your continued support.



<http://www.wakeweekly.com/best-of-the-best-voting-2015/>

## Hearing Focus Tip - Batteries

It is recommended that you replace a battery only twice if your hearing aid is not working. Do not go through a pack of batteries trying to determine if you have a "bad" batch of batteries. Remember: Do not remove the tab until you are ready to use the battery. Removing the tab activates the battery. Open the battery door completely when storing your hearing aids at night.



If after changing your battery a second time, the aid is not working, most likely there is another issue with the hearing aid. A wax filled receiver, moisture, clogged ear mold/dome or wax guard could be the culprit. Call our office and we will get you scheduled for a clean and check of your hearing aid(s).

## Hear from our Patients

*"Dr. Marquis is very professional and eager to help in any way. Her staff is also very professional, friendly and helpful. My hearing aids have opened up a new world to me..." GM*

## We Appreciate Your Referrals

Referring your friends and family is the highest compliment you can pay us. As a thank you for referring new hearing aid patients, we will make a contribution to a charity of your choice.

Thank you for choosing Wake Audiology as your hearing care provider.

Sincerely,

Dr. Catherine Marquis  
Carol and Sandy

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contacts



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