

Ear Irrigation

from: Olive Health Travel Clinic


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Description

What is Ear Irrigation? Ear wax removal by irrigation replaces the old fashioned technique of ear syringing. It is an exceptionally safe, effective and comfortable method of ear cleaning. How is Ear Irrigation performed? Ear irrigation is performed by using an electronic ear irrigation machine to remove ear wax. The machine contains a storage reservoir unit for water and a hand-held nozzle which gently pumps water into the ear canal at a controlled and steady rate. The water breaks down and dislodges the ear wax build-up, it then flushes the ear wax out of the canal and it is captured in a flask called a noots tank. The procedure can take between 15 to 30 minutes depending on the amount and type of ear wax, depth of ear wax inside the ear canal and whether you are having one ear or both ears treated. Prior to treatment the ear wax must be prepared by softening it with ear drops for several days to a week (sometimes longer) beforehand. It is not uncommon during this period for the ear drops to cause the ear wax to expand and further increase the ear blockage and exacerbate any other associated symptoms. Occasionally, the ear drops can trigger ear infections and irritation. Benefits of Ear Irrigation. Ear irrigation can be effective at removing ear wax if performed correctly and the ear wax is not fully impacted and blocking the ear. It can also be performed at your local GP practice by your nurse, although many GP practices are no longer offering ear irrigation services due

A close-up photograph of a person's ear. A cotton swab is being used to clean the ear canal. The background is a warm, orange-brown color.

Home • Ear Irrigation

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