

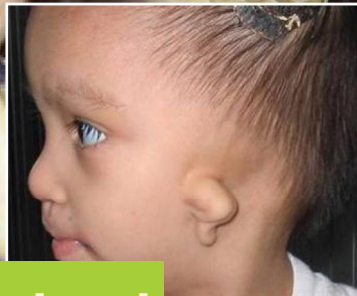
Microtia and Atresia

FACTS:

- **Microtia is when the outside part of the ear is not properly formed. Atresia is a condition when the opening to the ear is closed.**
- **The ear does not form properly when the baby is growing in the womb; it happens by chance.**
- **The child can have microtia, atresia or both. One or both ears may be affected.**
- **If the ear canal is closed, the hearing will be somewhat limited in that ear; but the child can still hear.**
- **Sometimes the child also has a cleft lip/palate or other facial conditions.**
- **These children have normal intelligence and are healthy.**



Microtia and atresia are very manageable needs with no health or developmental problems.



The ear canal is closed and the outer ear is small, folded or misshapen.

Microtia and Atresia

TREATMENT:

- If the hearing is affected, surgery can open the ear canals. Cosmetic surgery can be performed to create a normal looking ear.
- Children with hearing loss can sometimes benefit from hearing aids or surgical treatment.
- Children with hearing loss learn using their other senses, especially vision. Use pictures and gestures to help the child understand and communicate. Show them what you want them to do and allow them to watch other children.
- Get the child's attention before speaking to him or her. Speak slowly and clearly but don't shout.



This little girl has microtia, atresia and a cleft lip and palate. She is a real joy to her family!



Children with microtia and atresia have normal intelligence.