

Additional Resources

Colorado Families for Hands & Voices

- Parent organization dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing without a bias around communication modes or methodology.

Colorado Hearing Resource Coordinator

- Assists families (with children birth to 3 years of age) in obtaining access to funding, community resources, coordination of services, and providing expertise about hearing loss.

Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind

- Hard of hearing and Deaf adult role models who are trained to provide awareness experiences to increase understanding of the needs of a student who is hard of hearing/deaf and to improve this child's sense of identity and self-esteem.

Ear Community

- Online support group for individuals with Microtia and Atresia.

Phonak Guide to Access Planning

- Provides information that is important to effectively and independently advocate and be responsible for your communication access supports.

ADCO Hearing Products

- Purchase assistive listening products.

Team Members

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Ear, Nose & Throat, Facial Plastic Surgeon

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Microtia & Atresia Multidisciplinary Clinic



Microtia

Microtia is the incomplete development of the external ear (pinna). The ear may be slightly smaller than normal; it may be significantly smaller than normal with abnormalities of various parts of the ear; or it may be totally absent (anotia).

Atresia

Atresia is the closure of the ear canal. Microtia-atresia means that there is an incomplete development of the external ear with closure of the ear canal. When an individual has microtia or microtia/atresia and no other developmental malformations in other parts of the body it is called 'isolated microtia.' Microtia may be associated with hemifacial microsomia or Goldenhar's syndrome.

Prevalence

Ethnicity

- African: 1 in 40,000 live births (0.0025%)
- Caucasian: 1 in 20,000 live births (0.005%)
- Hispanic: 1 in 10,000 live births (0.01%)
- Asian: 1 in 10,000 live births (0.01%)
- Native Americans: 1 in 1,800 live births (0.05%)
- Navajo: 1 in 1,200 live births (0.08%)

Isolated (0.63 per 10,000 per live and stillbirths)

- Unilateral > Bilateral
- Right ear > Left ear
- Males > Females

What is the Microtia Clinic?

A team of pediatric specialists who will answer questions about microtia, atresia, associated symptoms, and options for treatment.

Why choose Children's Hospital Colorado for treatment?

This multidisciplinary clinic offers patients and their families the unique opportunity to learn different treatment and rehabilitative options for microtia and atresia from a team that supports each individual child with his/her own needs.

Who should attend the Microtia Clinic?

The clinic is applicable for children with microtia-atresia birth to age twenty-one as well as their caretakers.

What do treatment options include?

- Leaving the ear natural.
- Completing a four-stage reconstructive rib graft surgery.
- Creating a custom-made prosthetic ear.
- Utilizing hearing aids and assistive technologies (which can be incorporated with any treatment option).

What should you expect from a visit to the clinic?

The team encourages families to come to the clinic as a new patient (regardless of age) to:

- Obtain information and ideas.
- Meet with other children and their families to discuss their experiences.
- Learn about reconstruction, prosthetic, and amplification options.

We recommend that children and their families return to the clinic every one or two years to:

- Learn about new research.
- Participate in networking opportunities.
- Support children with microtia-atresia as they mature and begin to make personal decisions about their ears and hearing.

Families can anticipate discussing the individual needs and desires of their child with microtia-atresia, and how to support the child in his/her choices.

