

# Ear microsuction - Procedure

## Mead Medical Patient Information

Don't suffer with blocked ears.

Put your ears in the hands of an Ear Suction Clinic GP Specialist who has extensive experience.

Before your appointment to help with the softening process, you would have been asked to use a few drops of olive oil in each ear for a few days leading up to it. Microsuction Ear Wax Removal should be administered by a fully trained practitioner.

The steps below are all designed to ensure your ear wax removal experience is both pleasant and thorough.

You need to make sure wax is fully soft before procedure, otherwise there is high chance of failure and repetition of procedure.

To make sure wax is soft you need to use ideally chemist grade OLIVE OIL through a dropper in the ear for treatment. Few drops to each ear every night for the 7 days leading up to the appointment. Put some cotton wool in your ear to stop the oil from leaking out onto your pillow.

Once we have ascertained that there are no contra-indications to administering the wax removal procedure, the clinician will conduct a thorough observation of your ear canal with binocular glasses and by placing a speculum into your ear. The speculum is used to help focus the clinician's vision on the tiny space that is your ear canal. From this observation, the clinician will identify the most efficient and effective way to remove the wax.

From this point on throughout the wax removal procedure, you will need to keep your head relatively stable.

This next step involves the clinician using the tiny spoon to push softened ear wax away from the ear canal walls to the centre. They will then use a gentle suction straw attached to a low-pressurised suctioning machine to extract the ear wax. Throughout the process, the clinician has full control of what they are doing and can always see where the remaining wax is located in order to position the suction straw appropriately.

Occasionally, your clinician may need to use micro-forceps to gently remove any stubborn wax that the previous step using micro-suction was unable to budge.

Most people who have had their ears cleaned of wax using ear microsuction method say it was the gentlest and best wax removal experience they have had. They leave with a smile on their face as often the symptoms they walked in the door with have instantaneously vanished.

### **Charges for procedure**

Standard rate is \$100 (with Medicare rebate applied)

Pension rate is \$90 (with Medicare rebate applied)

If no wax is found, our appointment fee still applies. If you are not sure you have wax we recommend you get it checked elsewhere first to reduce the chance of disappointment.

Generally, children cope with our procedure quite well. Sometimes however, very young children may move around too much rendering the procedure unsafe to continue. If this happens unfortunately the appointment fee still applies. If you are not confident your child will be able to sit through the procedure, we recommend your GP refers them to an ENT where the procedure can be performed under sedation.

## **Fee FAQs**

### **Is it cheaper if I only need one ear cleaned?**

Our price is the same no matter how many ears we clean. In other words, if we clean 1 ear or 2 ears, the price is the same.

### **Will I still have to pay full price if I come to my appointment and no wax is found?**

Unfortunately, yes. If you are not sure you have wax please get it checked elsewhere first. We are a very popular hearing clinic and if you book an appointment you are acknowledging and understand that you are taking up another patient's spot even if you may not have wax present. If no wax is present (or only a small amount) AND you still feel blocked, we usually perform other tests to determine/eliminate likely ear related problems.

### **What happens if I need to reschedule or cancel my appointment?**

We at Ear Suction Clinic understand that at times, one may need to reschedule or cancel an appointment. All that we ask is that you provide us with at least 24 hours' notice. If less than 24 hours notice is given, Ear Suction Clinic may charge a 50% fee. If no notice is given at all and you do not attend your appointment, Ear Suction Clinic holds the right to charge you in full for the service you missed.