PACIFIC HEAD & NECK℠

PACIFIC NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTE®

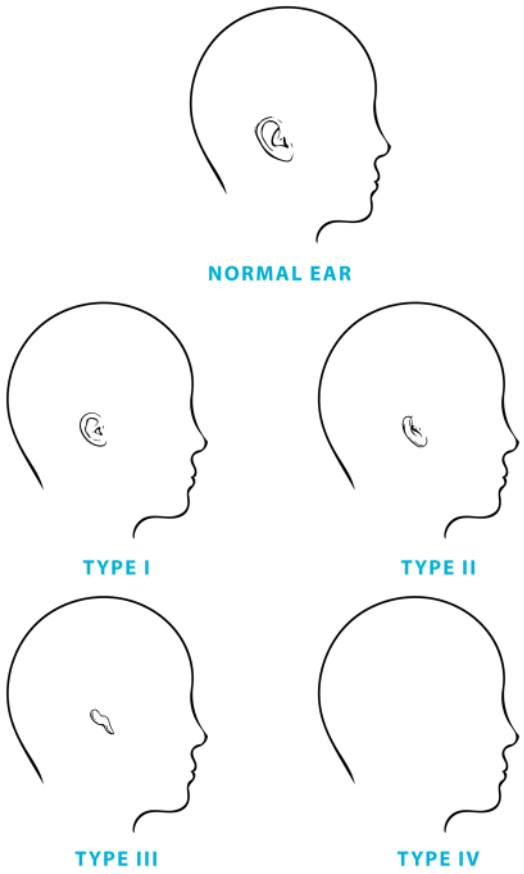
Providence

MICROTIA

Microtia is a congenital condition in which a baby is born with malformed external ear. Microtia repair is designed to address both external ear deformity and inner ear canal deficiency. It is a congenital deformity of the outer ear which was not fully developed during pregnancy. Ears usually range in size; however, a patient with microtia typically has a smaller ear that may look like a small lobe.

Microtia can range from mild to severe. In rare cases, there is complete absence of the external ear. The most common part of the ear that is malformed or underdeveloped is:

- Lobule type
- Conchal type
- Small conchal type



4 STAGES OF MICROTIA

- **Stage 1:** A small ear with most external normal development. Patients with stage **1** microtia may have narrowed or missing ear canal.
- **Stage 2:** There is some irregular external development, especially on the top half of the ear. Patients with stage **2** may often have a narrowed or missing ear canal (much like stage **1**).
- **Stage 3:** This is the most common stage of microtia. Patients with this stage have a small, underdeveloped ear with no ear canal.
- **Stage 4:** Microtia patients have no ear canal or external structure.

In children who have diminished hearing, a bone anchored hearing aid may be recommended. There are several different methods of surgery to reconstruct the ear.

TREATMENT

- **Surgery:**
  - Graft Surgical Reconstruction
  - Prosthetics: A prosthetic ear can mirror the opposite ear. It's made with materials that look and feel much like skin. This prosthetic ear is implanted to allow a secure fit. However, this ear can come on and off.

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