



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
TINNITUS & HYPERACUSIS CENTER
Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery

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Thank you for your interest in the University of Maryland Tinnitus and Hyperacusis Center. Established in 1990 by Pawel Jastreboff, Ph.D, this center was the first of its kind to treat people with tinnitus and hyperacusis (hypersensitivity to sound). Over the past decade, the University of Maryland Tinnitus & Hyperacusis Center has developed and pioneered a unique approach to the treatment of tinnitus and hyperacusis called Tinnitus Retraining Therapy (TRT). The goal is to evaluate, diagnose, and treat your tinnitus and/or hyperacusis so that it will no longer be a problem for you. We have enclosed a brochure which summarizes our center and treatment approach.

If you decide to come to our center for treatment, your initial evaluation can take place on two consecutive days, from two to five hours each day or 1 full day, from 7-8 hours. Decisions about which treatment plan is best for you will be made jointly by the patient, physicians and professional staff of the Tinnitus and Hyperacusis Center.

The approximate cost for the initial evaluation, diagnosis, and counseling is \$1,500. Sometimes additional tests are recommended and these tests would be presented to you for your approval. Treatment plan options will be decided by the physician, audiologist, and by the patient. One treatment option is the use of noise generating devices. The cost of noise generating devices will be an additional \$2,300.

The Tinnitus & Hyperacusis Center does not participate with any insurance plan. Accordingly, ***payment is expected at the time services are rendered.***

It is possible that some procedures may be covered by your insurance plan. The coverage will depend on your plan. Enclosed is a list of the procedures and the medical codes, as used by insurance companies. From this information you should be able to determine with your insurance company, what part of the costs your insurance company will cover so that you can be reimbursed. Please note that Medicare does not cover any of these costs.

Continuity of care is essential for achieving and sustaining control of tinnitus and hyperacusis. We encourage patients to be seen for follow up in one, three, and six months after their initial visit. If this is not possible however, then some early follow up can be performed through several telephone conversations. There is no charge for follow up visits occurring before six months from the initial evaluation.

Visits at six months and after will involve some testing and counseling and there will be a charge for these visits. Follow-up visits will continue every six months for as long as necessary. Generally, the treatment takes 18 to 24 months.

Please complete the enclosed questionnaire and send it to us if you would like an appointment. As soon as we receive and review your questionnaire we will contact you to schedule your appointment. You will receive directions and hotel information when your appointment has been scheduled. If you are not contacted within 1 week or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call (410) 328-1279.

This letter should be used as an outline only and does not constitute a legal document.

PROCEDURES, CODES, AND FEES (approximate)

Initial Evaluation and Instructions

<u>Code</u>	<u>Procedure</u>	<u>Fee</u>
99245	Physician Consultation	\$293
92588	Diagnostic Otoacoustic Emissions	\$165
92599	Pitch and Loudness Match	\$30
92599	Minimum Masking Levels	\$30
92599	Speech and Puretone TOL Measures	\$30
92557	Comprehensive Audiogram	\$120
92567	Tympanometry	\$40
92568	Acoustic Reflex Threshold	\$36
92569	Acoustic Reflex Decay	\$21
99499	Consultation (Directive Counseling)	\$500
92599	Viennatone, Silent Star, binaural	\$2,160
92599	General Hearing Instruments, Tranquil, binaural	\$2,160
92599	Instrument Fitting	\$100

Initial evaluation only, without instruments, is approximately \$1,500.

Initial evaluation and purchase of instruments can range from \$2,645 to \$3, 860, depending on the instrument purchased.

It should be noted, however, that not all tests are performed on all patients, and not every patient is fit with instruments. The evaluation and treatment protocol is very individual.