

# Clinical Tidbit

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## Hearing Loss Drug Therapies

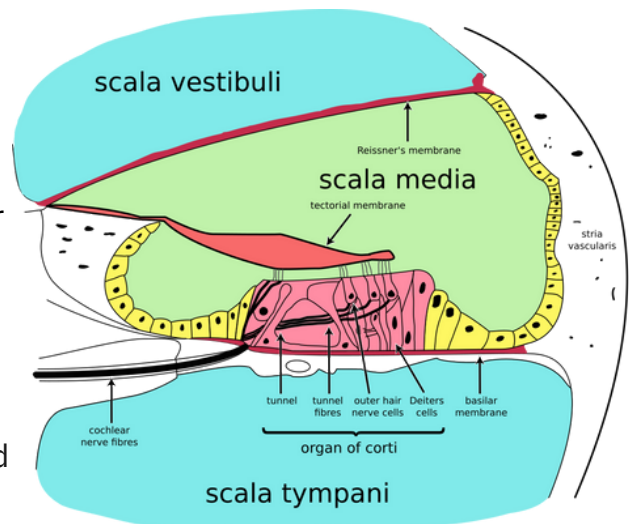
**Clinical trials on hearing loss therapies are often asked about at our clinic as patients are always hopeful there is something new on the horizon for their irreversible hearing loss. Below we provide context on current research:**

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Each trial focuses on a specific types of hearing loss: while most of the research is centered on sensorineural hearing loss, the type of sensorineural hearing loss varies. Example concentrations include: sudden sensorineural hearing loss (often viral), noise related hearing loss, hearing loss from ototoxic drugs, and hearing loss related to vestibular pathologies such as Meniere's disease.

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The population also varies in these studies, with some focusing on hearing loss from birth (which is more likely to be gene or structurally based) or focus on age and the degeneration of the inner ear cochlea. Age related hearing loss to the inner ear can also be a result of damage to the inner ear hair cells, damage to the cochlear nerve, or lack of blood flow to the stria vascularis. Studies on therapeutics for the inner ear must focus on only one part of the inner ear at a time.



Most recently, Frequency Therapeutics abandoned their Phase 2b study on sudden or noise-induced hearing loss after disappointing results. This was the second drugmaker in the past four months to end investments in a hearing loss solution. However, there has been an overall increase in companies investing in long-term projects for hearing loss drug therapies.

At this time, the best-practice solution for age-related sensorineural hearing loss is still traditional amplification via hearing aids (programmed using Real Ear Measures). We will continue to update our patients and network of healthcare providers with any progress.

***Please educate your patients on the importance of a baseline hearing exam so that they can be fully informed in their hearing healthcare moving forward.***

Source:

Strom, K. (2023, February 13). *Frequency Therapeutics abandons hearing loss treatment programs*. Hearing Tracker. Retrieved from <https://www.hearingtracker.com/news/frequency-therapeutics-abandons-hearing-loss-drug-development>