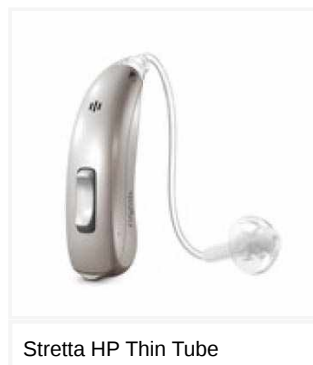
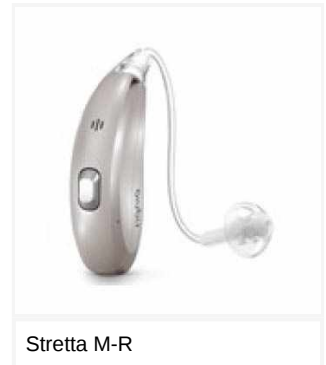
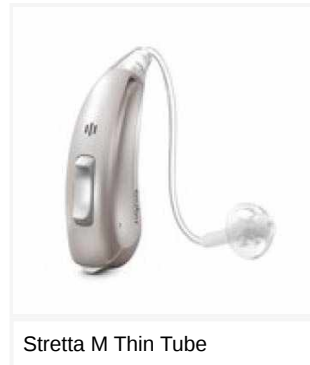
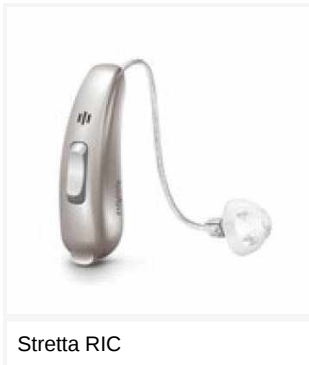




Types of hearing aid

Information for patients from the Audiology Department

In most cases we offer Signia (<https://www.signia.net/en-gb/local/en-gb/nhs-public-sector/>) hearing aids. The main models we offer are shown here.



Model Reference Guide

- RIC: Receiver in the canal with S/M/P/HP receivers
- CROS: Contra-lateral routing of signals
- M: Mild / Medium powered
- M-T: Mild / Medium powered and telecoil compatible

- M-R: Mild / Medium powered and rechargeable
- HP: High powered
- HP-T: High powered and telecoil compatible
- UP-R: Super / Ultra powered.

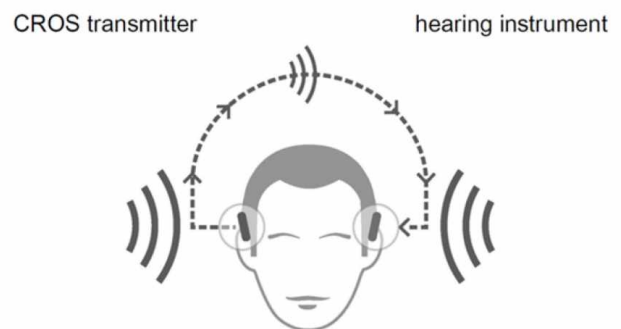
CROS and Bi-CROS Hearing Aid Systems

- CROS stands for Contralateral Routing of Sound.
- Bi stands for Bilateral.

A CROS hearing aid is a special type of hearing aid. It is for people who have little to no hearing in one ear and have normal hearing in the other ear.

A Bi-CROS hearing aid is for people who are profoundly deaf in one ear, but also have a hearing loss in their better ear.

With CROS or Bi-CROS hearing aids, sound is wirelessly transmitted from the profoundly deaf ear into the better ear. What looks like a conventional hearing aid is worn on the deaf ear, but this is a microphone only. This microphone picks up sound from your poorer side and sends it wirelessly into a conventional hearing aid on your better ear. The sound is then heard and processed by the brain. The sound can also be amplified if you have a hearing impairment in your better ear.



A CROS or BI-CROS hearing aid transmits sounds from one ear to the other

Other hearing devices

- **AdHear**

AdHear is a non-surgical bone conduction hearing aid processor for mild conductive hearing loss. It transmits sound via an adhesive adapter or a soft band. It is a solution for:

- single sided deafness
- children or adult conductive hearing loss; and
- patients that need a bone implant, but decline surgery and fit the criteria.

- **Hearing amplifier**

Some patients cannot use conventional hearing aids. These patient will be given an amplifier to enable some level of communication and hearing needs to be met.

How do I get a hearing aid from the hospital?

1. Referral

You are referred to Audiology from Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) or your GP.

2. Assessment

The assessment process may include:

- a hearing test
- counselling
- recommendations based on hearing loss and available choice; and
- an ear mould impression, if applicable.

3. Fitting

Hearing aid fitting, programming, and real ear measurements, if applicable.

4. Follow-up

Check on progress and hearing aid fine tuning, as needed.

5. Ongoing aftercare

Repairs, advice, and tubing, domes, and battery supply. Hearing aid maintenance, as needed.

Further information

For more information on hearing aids, including repair and aftercare, please speak to a member of staff. Alternatively, a series of hearing aid leaflets is available on our web site.

(<https://www.ekhuft.nhs.uk/information-for-patients/patient-information/?i=leaflets&categories=audiology-hearing-aids>)

Contact details

If you have any problems or issues with your hearing aid, please contact the Audiology Department.

- **Audiology Department**

Telephone: 01227 864252

Lines are open 10am to 12 noon, and 2pm to 4pm

Email (ekh-tr.audiology@nhs.net)

This leaflet has been produced with and for patients.

Please let us know:

- If you have any accessibility needs; this includes needing a hearing loop or wanting someone to come with you to your appointment.
- If you need an interpreter.
- If you need this information in another format (such as Braille, audio, large print or Easy Read).

You can let us know this by:

- Visiting the Trust web site (<https://www.ekhuft.nhs.uk/ais>).
- Calling the number at the top of your appointment letter.
- Adding this information to the Patient Portal (<https://pp.ekhuft.nhs.uk/login>).
- Telling a member of staff at your next appointment.

Any complaints, comments, concerns or compliments, please speak to a member of your healthcare team. Or contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service on 01227 783145 or email (ekh-tr.pals@nhs.net).

Patients should not bring large sums of money or valuables into hospital. Please note that East Kent Hospitals accepts no responsibility for the loss or damage to personal property, unless the property has been handed into Trust staff for safe-keeping.

Further patient information leaflets are available via the East Kent Hospitals' web site (<https://www.ekhuft.nhs.uk/patient-information>).

Reference number: Web 560f

First published:
October 2024

Last reviewed:
October 2024

Next review date:
February 2028

Copyright © East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust.