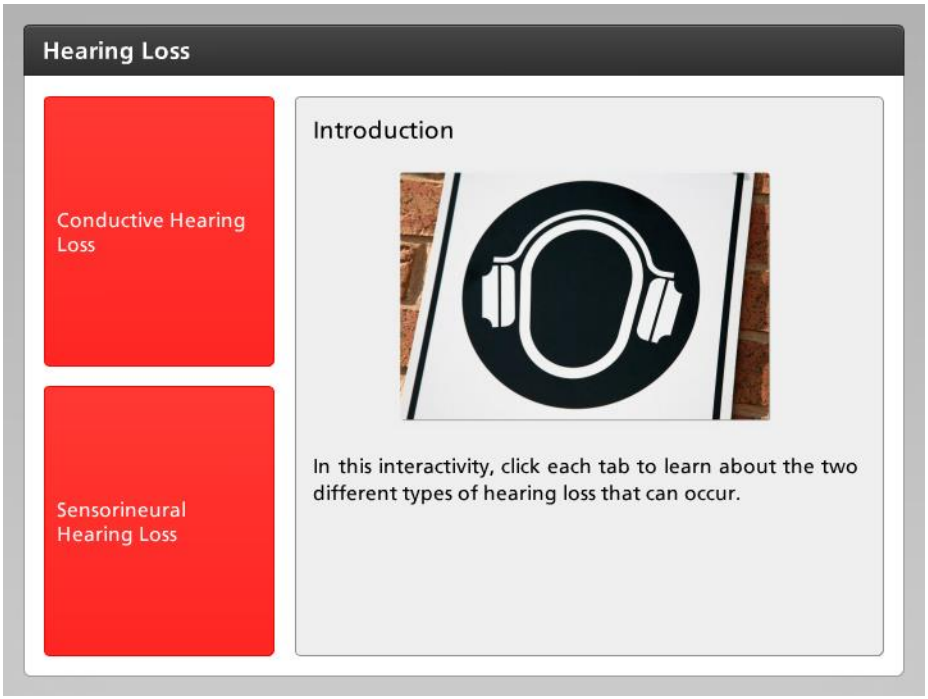
Module 3: Sensation and Perception
Topic 3 Content: Hearing Loss Notes

Introduction



In this interactivity, click each tab to learn about the two different types of hearing loss that can occur.

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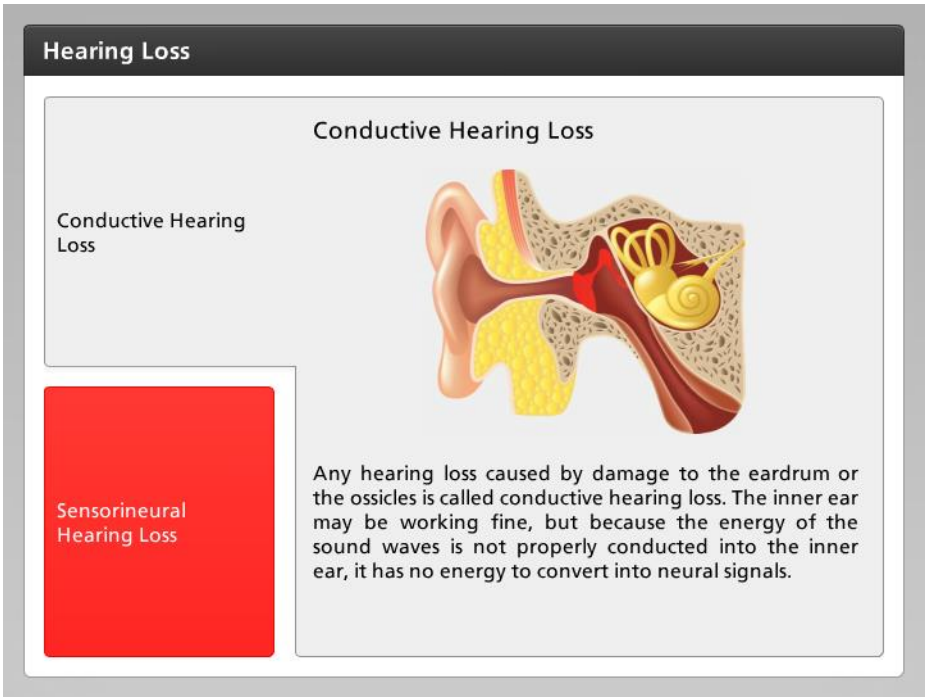
Conductive Hearing Loss



Any hearing loss caused by damage to the eardrum or the ossicles is called conductive hearing loss. The inner ear may be working fine, but because the energy of the sound waves is not properly conducted to the inner ear, it has no energy to convert into neural signals.

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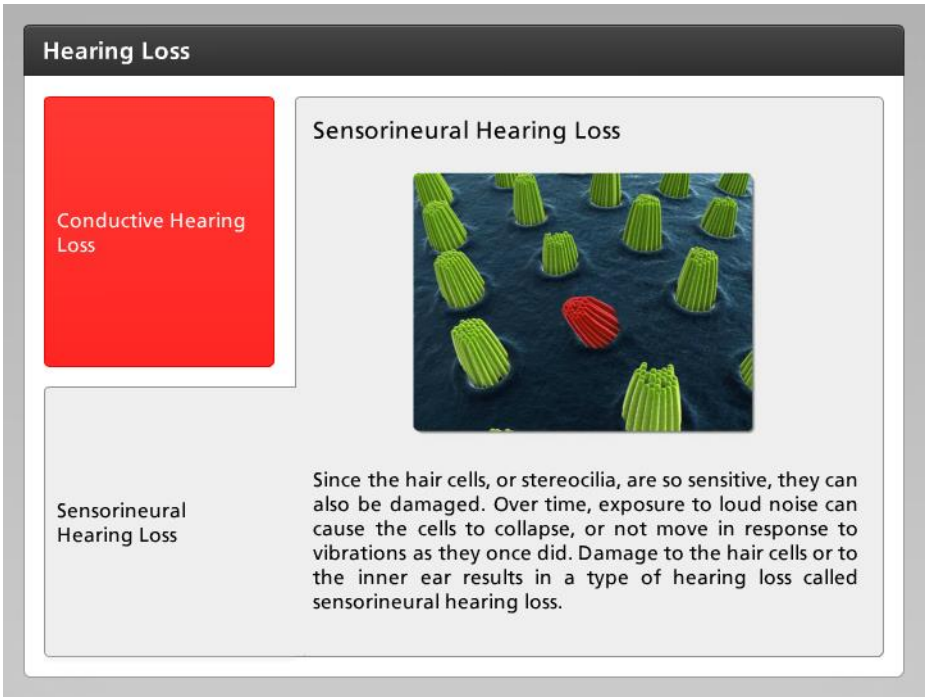
Sensorineural Hearing Loss



Since the hair cells, or stereocilia, are so sensitive, they can also be damaged. Over time, exposure to loud noise can cause the cells to collapse, or not move in response to vibrations as they once did. Damage to the hair cells or to the inner ear results in a type of hearing loss called sensorineural hearing loss.