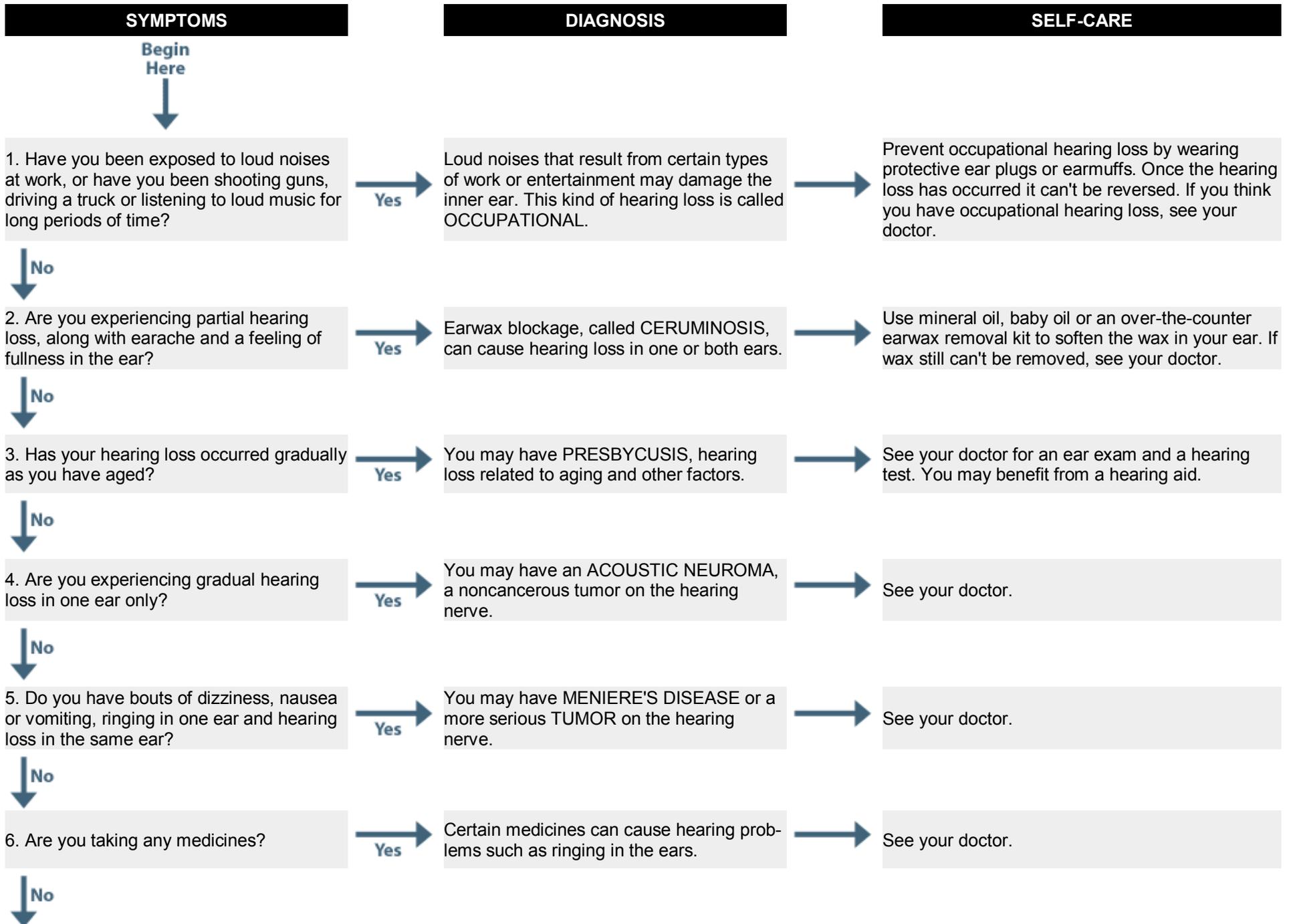


Hearing Problems

Loss in the ability to hear or discriminate sounds is a common disability. This flow chart will help direct you if hearing loss is a problem for you or a family member.



7. Do you have pain, reduced hearing, fever, cold symptoms or a "fluid" sensation in your ear?



This may be due to a cold, flu, allergies or a more chronic condition, SEOUS [OTITIS MEDIA](#), in which fluid builds up in the middle ear.



Use cold medicine for 5 to 7 days. If you don't feel better or if you have a constant fever or severe pain, see your doctor.



For more information, please talk to your doctor. If you think the problem is serious, call your doctor right away.

This tool has been reviewed by doctors and is for general educational purposes only. It is not a substitute for medical advice. The information in this tool should not be relied upon to make decisions about your health. Always consult your family doctor with questions about your individual condition(s) and/or circumstances. Source: American Academy of Family Physicians. Family Health & Medical Guide. Dallas: Word Publishing; 1996.