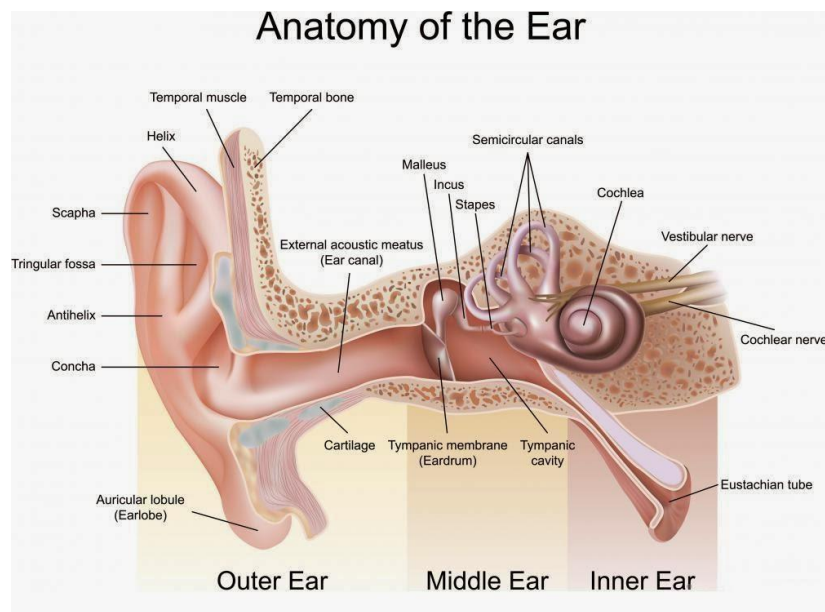


Information on Tympanoplasty

Eardrum: The eardrum, also called the tympanic membrane, is a thin, cone-shaped membrane that separates the external ear from the middle ear. Its function is to transmit sound from the air to the ossicles inside the middle ear, and then to the oval window in the fluid-filled cochlea. It ultimately converts and amplifies vibration in the air to vibration in the inner ear fluid.

The eardrum also protects the middle ear so that debris and bacteria do not enter the middle ear.



Eardrum Perforation: Is a hole or tear in the eardrum and can be caused by many things, such as:

1. A rupture due to an infection in the middle ear.
2. An object entering the ear canal and puncturing the ear drum.
3. Chronic ear problems.

Tympanoplasty: Is the surgical procedure performed to reconstruct the perforated tympanic membrane (eardrum) and/or the ossicles (the small bones of the middle ear). The goal of this surgical procedure is not only to close the perforation but also to improve hearing.