

Mayo Clinic Medical Edge

Perforated Eardrums

1:00

Log

Audio

Intro with music	GIVING YOU THE EDGE ON HEALTHY LIVING, HERE'S MAYO CLINIC MEDICAL EDGE.
	FROM A BUZZING BEE TO A ROARING FREIGHT TRAIN, EVERY THING WE HEAR STARTS WHEN SOUNDWAVES HIT OUR EARDRUM CAUSING IT TO VIBRATE. BUT YOUR EARDRUM IS ONLY ABOUT A MILLIMETER THICK. IT'S DELICATE, AND EASILY PUNCTURED.
Colin Driscoll, M.D. Track 1 (1:39)	"PROBABLY ONE OF THE BIGGEST OFFENDERS IS THE Q-TIP."
	MAYO CLINIC DOCTOR COLIN DRISCOLL SAYS PEOPLE WILL INADVERTANTLY PUSH A SWAB IN TOO FAR OR GET BUMPED WHILE THEY'RE CLEANING THEIR EARS

	<p>AND PERFORATE OR RUPTURE THEIR EAR DRUM. SIGNS OF A PERFORATED EARDRUM CAN INCLUDE SUDDEN PAIN, DRAINAGE FROM THE EAR, AND HEARING LOSS.</p>
<p>Dr. Driscoll Track 1 (2:40)</p>	<p>“IF YOU HAVE A HOLE IN THE EAR DRUM, IT MAY NOT VIBRATE NORMALLY AND TRANSMIT SOUND AS WELL.”</p>
	<p>MOST PERFORATIONS WILL HEAL THEMSELVES OVER A FEW WEEKS. SOMETIMES DOCTORS WILL PLACE A SMALL PATCH, LIKE A BANDAID OVER THE HOLE TO HELP IN HEALING. IF A PERFORATION DOESN'T HEAL IN ABOUT SIX MONTHS, SURGERY TO REPAIR THE HOLE MAY BE IN ORDER.</p>
	<p>FOR MORE INFORMATION, TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR OR VISIT MAYOCLINIC.ORG. I'M VIVIEN WILLIAMS.</p>
