

The Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic

Mr Giles Warner, Consultant ENT Surgeon

Grommets

Grommets are tiny plastic tubes that are surgically placed through the eardrum. These are often used in the treatment of a condition called "glue ear" which commonly causes hearing loss in children. Fluid collects behind the eardrum, which prevents sound waves being normally transferred to the inner ear. This condition can also affect adults with symptoms not only of hearing loss, but also the sensation of whooshing, popping or crackling, and typically occurs after a viral cough or cold. The good news is that in persistent cases of adult glue ear, grommet insertion under local anesthetic is a very effective treatment resulting in instantaneous resolution of symptoms. This treatment is now available at the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic at very competitive rates.