Basic Otoscopy

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Basic Otoscopy: Definition

- Transmit light down the ear canal to view the canal wall and tympanic membrane (TM)
- Observe the color, luster, and mobility of the TM
- Pneumatic Otoscopy:
  - Use insufflation bulb to apply positive and negative air pressure to the TM and observe how mobile it is
Basic Otoscopy: Anatomy
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- **Outer Ear**
- **External Ear Canal**
- **Malleus**
- **Tympanic Membrane**
- **Tympanic Cavity**
Basic Otoscopy: Normal TM

- **Landmarks**
  - Annulus
  - Lateral process of malleus
  - Umbo
  - Light reflex
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Basic Otoscopy: Conditions Dx’d

- Traumatic perforation
  - Blood
  - Visible hole in TM
  - Absent mobility
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  - Intact TM
  - Dark red/purple air-fluid level behind TM
  - Reduced or absent mobility
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- CSF leak
  - Intact or torn TM
  - Clear watery air-fluid level behind TM or watery fluid running from TM perf
Basic Otoscopy: Practical skills