Usher Syndrome

Usher Syndrome is a genetic condition where both parents pass a faulty gene to the child. The parents however, are usually unaware that they are carriers until the child experiences visual problems and the condition has been diagnosed.

Usher Syndrome is characterised by deafness and vision loss. The hearing loss is associated with a defective inner ear whereas the vision loss is associated with **Retinitis Pigmentosa** (RP) – a degeneration of the retinal cells.

There are 3 types of Usher Syndrome – **type 1** is characterised by deafness from birth (congenital) with sight deteriorating before the teenage years and also experience balance problems.

Those with **type 2** are born partially deaf with sight loss usually experienced in late teens or early twenties.

In **Type 3** hearing loss may or may not be present at birth but both hearing and sight gradually deteriorate usually in twenties or thirties although it can occur earlier.

For further information:

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