

## **VENTA Methodology on the Care of Vertigo/Dizzy Patients**

Getting to the root cause of dizziness can be a difficult task. It is highly common for us to see patients who have had numerous imaging procedures, lab tests and physician visits and are still seeking answers as to why they do not feel well. We have built our program to be in the unique position to serve the local need for the proper diagnosis and care of dizziness. Our goals here at Virginia ENT are to give accurate and actionable information to patients to help them resolve or improve their conditions. We have a multidisciplinary team of ENT physicians, vestibular specialized physical therapists and audiologists that synthesize information to properly formulate a treatment plan. Often, the resolution, or the beginnings thereof, will occur the same day as the diagnosis.

The method we use to structure a patient care episode is modeled after other successful balance/dizziness diagnostic models as well as learning over the years what works best through our own practices. Dizziness and imbalance can come from a vast multitude of sources and the most obvious symptoms (sinus pressure, tinnitus, allergies) are not always related to the dizziness in the way people have considered. That is why functional testing (audiology and the vestibular exam) aligned with a medical consult with the ENT are most often needed in tandem. Most consultations with a Virginia ENT vestibular therapist will lead to the diagnosis and treatment planning of a condition without the ENT needing to be present. Most dizziness conditions cannot be diagnosed through an exam of the ear drum or with a scope. Pharmaceuticals, although sometimes needed, are most often not an integral part of the care plan for dizziness promoting conditions.

The inner ear exam is a complex one that involves a battery of functional testing. The old model of all patients proceeding from physician to MRI to functional testing (vestibular/balance exam) can be full of time delays and unnecessary costs. We ensure you that the process we use to examine your condition, has been designed for patient benefit.

Thank you for considering Virginia ENT in the care of your condition.