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Howard T. Mango, Au.D., Ph.D.  
Founder and Executive Director  
**Biography**

Founder and executive director of Newport-Mesa Audiology Balance and Ear Institute (the Institute), Dr. Mango was once an aspiring actor who moved from New York to Southern California to pursue his dream. After enrolling as a student at University of Southern California (USC) and studying acting with “highly gifted actors, such as John Ritter,” Dr. Mango decided it was best to focus on another interest: Anatomy & Physiology. This new passion led him to a Bachelor’s degree in Speech Pathology and Audiology from USC in 1973.

Dr. Mango received a Master’s degree in Audiology from the University of Virginia in 1975. He then became an associate professor at University of Virginia teaching Introduction to Audiology for the Department of Otolaryngology. Shortly after, he was offered a job and began working for an Otolaryngologist in Southern California. He began contemplating a private practice, as he thought, “The only way I can ever make money is to work for myself.” Dr. Mango knew he would face adversity with such a decision, because the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA) had declared it unethical for Audiologists to dispense hearing aids. Dr. Mango was determined, though, because he had a sense of the direction in which the field was moving and wanted to stay a step ahead. So, in 1977 he purchased his own practice, Newport-Mesa Audiology, Inc., from a retiring hearing aid dispenser in Newport Beach, California.

At this time, Dr. Mango began research on the closed loop caloric irrigator with Guenter Grams and Dr. Kenneth Brookler, which piqued his interest in the inner ear vestibular system. This was just the beginning, as he embraced the growing field of vestibular testing, getting his Ph.D. in Audiology and Vestibular Physiology from USC in 1991 and rebranding his practice Newport-Mesa Audiology Balance and Ear Institute in 1992. He was also one of the first to utilize the Epley Maneuver to diagnosis and treat balance disorders, which was once controversial but now is the broadly accepted standard to manually diagnose and treat vestibular disorders.

Dr. Mango has never looked back, leading his field in the diagnosis and treatment of vertigo, dizziness and unsteadiness, as well as innovating vestibular rehabilitation techniques for treating benign positional vertigo, migraine and motion sensitivity. One of only 12 in the world, the Institute recently acquired an Epley chair that can automatically maneuver patients 360 degrees to most accurately diagnosis and treat balance disorders caused by all six vestibular canals. Additionally, the Institute also owns a Neuro-Kinetics Rotational Chair, of which there are only 63 in the United States. Furthermore, Dr. Mango has built his private practice into one of the most comprehensive in the country with five examinations rooms, three audiometric booths to test audio and vestibular nerves, as well as two posturography, two rotational chairs and one Epley chair. The Institute now employs four Doctors of Audiology, two fourth year Doctor of Audiology students and six members of support staff.

Dr. Mango has also presented numerous programs across the country in the areas of dizziness and balance disorders, as well as hearing loss and extended-wear hearing devices. He is affiliated with the American Speech and Hearing Association, and a fellow of the American Academy of Doctors of Audiology, the American Academy of Dispensing Audiology, and the California Academy of Audiology.

Though his main focus has been on balance disorders, Dr. Mango continues his first passion for acting. He recently starred as Tevye in Fiddler on the Roof and has performed in major roles in more than 100 musicals. You could say he has, and continues to, live and provide a “balanced” life, appreciating his good fortune, wonderful wife and 6-year-old son Dominic.