

The cartilaginous envelope surrounds the nervous elements of the embryo's [inner ear](#), which subsequently ossifies.

The otic capsule or osseous (bony) labyrinth refers to the dense bone of the petrous temporal bone that surrounds the membranous labyrinth of the inner ear. It is surrounded by the less dense and variably pneumatized [petrous apex](#) and [mastoid](#) part of the [temporal bone](#)

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