

Noise-induced hearing loss and its impact on quality of life

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ABSTRACT

Hearing loss due to aging and noise impact is among the largest chronic health conditions in the world. The prevalence is 10-20% of the world population, strongly depending on age. Hearing loss has a very strong impact on the quality of life of people affected with hearing loss. Often times it can lead to strong changes in social life not only of the person suffering from hearing loss directly but also of the family members (“third-party disability”). The occurrence of hearing loss also often strongly correlates with the occurrence of other health conditions especially in an elderly population. Strong correlations between the occurrence of hearing loss and diabetes type II, cognitive decline, risk of fall and a range of other conditions are being investigated. This talk aims to provide an overview over

- i) the impact of hearing loss on quality of life;
- ii) the benefit of using hearing instruments;
- iii) the state of knowledge of the correlations between hearing loss and other health conditions in elderly people.