Quantifying socioacusia in Uruguayan young people

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ABSTRACT

The human auditory health is studied case by case by Medicine and Health Care Sciences. But if auditory health is approached from an epidemiological point of view, the auditory health of a given population will give information on different subjects, and the incidence of noise pollution as a public health concern is one of the most important ones.

Changing minds about the direct relation between noise pollution and public health does not seem an easy challenge to achieve in South America. This paper presents an analysis of the auditory health status of Uruguayan young population not occupationally exposed to noise, considering age- and lifestyle- induced impairment (i.e., socioacusia). According to the available number of data, our results have an expected accuracy of about ± 1 dB. Although results are also available for other age ranges, they are not included because the smaller number of available data leads to greater error.