

Hearing loss statistics

The present



More than 5% of the global population has disabling hearing loss¹

That's 360 million people worldwide have disabling hearing loss including:



32 million children¹



328 million adults¹

The future



1.1 billion people worldwide are at risk of hearing loss¹



The future global annual cost of unaddressed hearing loss is estimated to be 750 billion international dollars¹

Life without a hearing solution

Untreated hearing loss can lead to...



Communications barriers with family and friends^{2,3}



Increased risk of falls⁴



Loneliness¹



Social isolation and depression¹



Increased risk of unemployment⁵



Higher risk of cognitive decline and dementia⁶

How to recognise the symptoms

It is important you can spot the signs of hearing loss. If you recognise any of the following symptoms then be sure to visit your doctor for a hearing test:



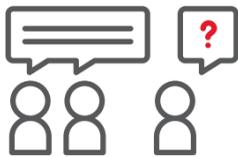
Asking people to repeat themselves



Listening to music or watching TV with the volume higher than other people need



Difficulty hearing on the phone



Finding it hard to keep up with a conversation



Feeling tired or stressed from having to concentrate while listening

References:

- 1 The World Health Organization. Deafness and hearing loss. Available at: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs300/en/>. Last accessed: September 2017.
- 2 Bidadi, S., Nejadkazem, M. and Naderpour, M. (2008). The relationship between chronic otitis media-induced hearing loss and the acquisition of social skills. *Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery*, 139(5), pp.665-670.
- 3 Gopinath, B., Hickson, L., Schneider, J., McMahon, C., Burlutsky, G., Leeder, S. and Mitchell, P. (2012). Hearing-impaired adults are at increased risk of experiencing emotional distress and social engagement restrictions five years later. *Age and Ageing*, 41(5), pp.618-623.
- 4 Lin, F. (2012). Hearing Loss and Falls Among Older Adults in the United States. *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 172(4), p.369.
- 5 Jopling, K. (2017). Hearing Loss and older people. [online] Royal Voluntary Service, p.13. Available at: https://www.royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk/Uploads/Documents/Reports%20and%20Reviews/hearing_loss_and_older_people.pdf [Accessed 8 Sep. 2017].
- 6 Raine, C., Atkinson, H., Strachan, D. and Martin, J. (2016). Access to cochlear implants: Time to reflect. *Cochlear Implants International*, 17(sup1), pp.42-46.