



Documentation - Healthier



Facts

People with hearing loss who are treated through professional hearing care are generally healthier, less depressed, live longer and experience increased quality of life.

Findings in surveys and studies

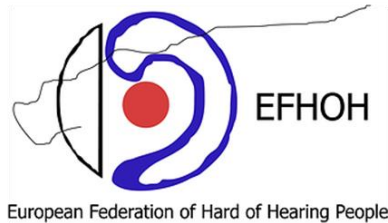
Surveys in Europe and USA in 2014 and 2015 show that people with hearing loss who treat their hearing loss through professional hearing care experience increased quality of life. In Europe, studies in Germany, United Kingdom, France and Switzerland have shown that more than four out of five hearing aid users say that hearing aids improve their quality of life. In the USA nearly nine out of ten say that hearing aids improve their quality of life.

Surveys and studies have also found that people who treat their hearing loss are less depressed, less exhausted and sleep better than those who don't. A scientific study has found an increased risk of psychosis in people with hearing impairment.

A study has found that people with an untreated hearing loss also have an increased risk of dying earlier. Another study has found that people who treat their hearing loss and use hearing aids live longer than those who do not treat their hearing loss.

A study has found that untreated hearing loss makes the brain shrink.

Surveys and studies



Survey

EuroTrak 2015. (Around 60,000 people in Germany, the United Kingdom, France and Switzerland participated in the surveys)

Findings

80-93% of those who use hearing aids say that hearing aids improve their quality of life either regularly or occasionally. Hearing aid users tend to be less depressed than the hearing impaired non-users. Hearing aid users in the surveys generally felt less exhausted in the evenings. People who use hearing aids tend to sleep better than non-users.

Read more:

<http://www.hear-it.org/hearing-aid-users-experience-increased-quality-life>

<http://www.ehima.com/documents/>

Survey

MarkeTrak 2015 USA (Around 17,000 participated in the survey)

Findings:

80-93% of those who use hearing aids say that hearing aids improve their quality of life either regularly or occasionally. In general hearing aid users see enhancements in all facets of life.

Read more:

<http://www.betterhearing.org/hearingpedia/bhi-archives/marketrak-publications>

<http://www.hearingreview.com/2015/05/introduction-marketrak-ix-new-baseline-hearing-aid-market/>

Study

Association of Hearing Impairment and Mortality in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, JAMA Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery, Kevin Contrera et al. (2015)

Conclusion

In adults 70 years or older, moderate or more severe hearing impairment was significantly associated with a 54% increased risk of mortality.

Read more:

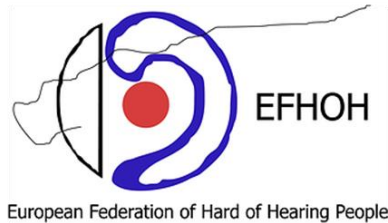
<http://www.hear-it.org/hearing-loss-increases-risk-dying>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25024235>

Study

Impairments in hearing and vision impact on mortality in older people: the AGES-Reykjavik Study. Published in the journal Age and Ageing, Oxford Journals, D Fisher et al, (2013.)

Conclusion



Older men with hearing impairment had a greater risk of dying from any cause and particularly cardiovascular causes within a median 5-year follow-up.

Read more:

<http://www.hear-it.org/live-longer-use-hearing-aids>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23996030>

Study

Association of Hearing Loss with Hospitalization and Burden of Disease in Older Adults, Published in JAMA, The Journal of the American Medical Association, Dane J. Genther et al (2013)

Conclusion

Hearing loss has broader implications for older adults, being independently associated with poorer cognitive and physical functioning

Read more:

<http://www.hear-it.org/untreated-hearing-loss-causes-poorer-physical-and-mental-health>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3875309/>

Study

Hearing Loss and Depression in Older Adults, Published in JAMA Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery David J. Mener et al (2014)

Conclusion

Hearing loss may be independently associated with depression and loneliness. Compared to other medical co-morbidities, hearing loss is more strongly associated with the development of depression in older adults.

Read more:

<http://www.hear-it.org/hearing-loss-may-lead-depression>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3773611/>

Study

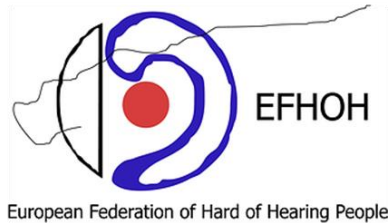
Increased risk of psychosis in patients with hearing impairment: review and meta-analyses, Published in Neuroscience & Biobehavioral Reviews, MM Linszen et al (2015)

Conclusion

This paper provides meta-analyses of all epidemiologic evidence on the association between hearing impairment and psychosis and summarizes mechanisms that potentially underlie this relationship. Meta-analyses showed an increased risk of hearing impairment on all psychosis outcomes.

Read more:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26743858>



Study

Association of hearing impairment with brain volume changes in older adults, Published in Neuroimage F. Lin et al (2014)

Conclusion

Hearing loss accelerates the loss of brain tissue in older adults

Read more:

<http://www.hear-it.org/untreated-hearing-loss-makes-the-brain-shrink>

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24412398>

Survey

Survey carried out by Sweden's organisation for hearing impaired Hörselskadades Riksforbund, HRF, 2014

Findings

Swedes with hearing loss are more likely to become ill. 10% of hearing impaired Swedes aged 20-64 perceive their own health as being poor or very poor. Poor health is twice as common in those with hearing loss as those without hearing problems. It is especially women's health which is affected by hearing loss. 14.3% of the Swedish hearing impaired women categorise their health as poor. This is three times as many as among women in general.

Read more:

<http://www.hear-it.org/poor-hearing-poor-health-swedes>

Study

Quality of life after intervention with a cochlear implant or hearing aid, Published in Laryngoscope. Contrera KJ et al, (2016)

Conclusion

Treatment of hearing loss with hearing aids and cochlear implants results in significant increases in mental health quality of life.

Read more:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26775283>