

Facts You Should Know About Hearing Loss

- Hearing loss is called “the invisible handicap” because there are no outward signs and the loss is usually gradual and painless.
- Hearing loss is the third most common chronic condition in older Americans, after hypertension and arthritis.
- Inability to hear and understand instructions by physicians, pharmacists or caregivers can put personal health in jeopardy.
- The reduction or loss of hearing has a pronounced effect on your ability to participate in life, and the lives of those you care about.
- Hearing loss can reduce job performance and earning power.
- Hearing loss can cause impaired memory, daily fatigue, tension and stress.
- People with diabetes are twice as likely to have hearing loss as those who do not have diabetes.
- Smokers and overweight individuals are also at increased risk of hearing loss.
- Men that regularly use aspirin, acetaminophen and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs experience more hearing loss.
- Noise-induced hearing loss is the most common cause of hearing loss in adults and children, versus hearing loss caused by aging or birth defects.
- 90 percent of hearing losses can be treated with the use of hearing instruments.

Hearing Quiz

1. Does a hearing problem cause you to feel embarrassed when you meet new people?
2. Does a hearing problem cause you to feel frustrated when talking to members of your family?
3. Do you have difficulty hearing when someone speaks in a whisper?
4. Do you feel handicapped by a hearing problem?
5. Does a hearing problem cause you difficulty when visiting friends, relatives or neighbors?
6. Does a hearing problem cause you to attend religious services less often than you would like?
7. Does a hearing problem cause you difficulty when listening to TV or radio?
8. Do you feel that any difficulty with your hearing limits or hampers your personal or social life?
9. Does a hearing problem cause you difficulty when in a restaurant with relatives or friends?

If you answered “yes” to two or more of these questions we recommend a comprehensive hearing evaluation.

For more information on possible causes and solutions for hearing loss, contact Lagniappe Hearing. We can help you preserve your hearing, test you for any hearing loss and provide guidance on what to do if you have hearing loss.