The societal and economic impact of treated hearing loss is – good!,

Coalition for Global Hearing Healthcare
Hearing aids are useful on the job.
HA users recognize that hearing aids increase their chances to get promoted, get the right job and get a better salary.

I think that people with an untreated hearing loss tend to be less promoted in their job

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<th>Disagree strongly</th>
<th>Rather disagree</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hearing aid</td>
<td>6% 10%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hearing loss, no hearing aid</td>
<td>19% 16%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>7%</td>
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I think that people with an untreated hearing loss tend not to get the job they deserve

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hearing aid</td>
<td>7% 8%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing loss, no hearing aid</td>
<td>18% 14%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>6%</td>
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I think that people with an untreated hearing loss tend to be under salaried

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hearing aid</td>
<td>8% 13%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing loss, no hearing aid</td>
<td>22% 15%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>4%</td>
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Base: Hearing loss, no hearing aid =600/ hearing aid n=414
HA owners have a lower risk of being depressed and lower risk of developing dementia.

Depression symptoms:

- Hearing aid: Yes, much more 46%, Yes, somewhat more 4%, No 50%
- Top 50% hearing loss, no hearing aid: Yes, much more 6%, Yes, somewhat more 70%, No 25%

Dementia symptom:

- Hearing aid: Yes, much more 4%, No 50%
- Top 50% hearing loss, no hearing aid: Yes, much more 6%, No 25%

Base: hearing aid n=402 / no hearing aid =118
Prof. Hélène Amieva, Bordeaux

- April, 2015:

  - "Hearing aids put cognitive decline on hold"

  - Cohort:
    - 3777 persons
    - Followed since 1988
Social costs of mental health problems: Example UK

Mental health 'costs UK billions'

By Adam Brimelow
BBC News, Health Correspondent

Mental health problems cost British businesses an average of £1,000 a year for every employee, researchers say.

The Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health said the overall annual cost to employers, including time off work and lost productivity, is nearly £26bn.

It says most firms vastly underestimate the problem, but they could make big savings with a few simple steps.

The Federation of Small Businesses said it was harder for firms with fewer resources to put policies in place.
HA owners feel less exhausted in the evenings resulting in fewer burn-outs

In the evenings I often feel **physically exhausted**

In the evenings I often feel **mentally exhausted**

Similar for UK and France

Base: Top 50% n=134 / hearing aid n=367
Social costs of burnouts: Not trivial!

Mentally and physically exhausted people cost CHF 4.2 billion/year in Switzerland.

Source: CH-Blick; 13.4.2012
Quality of sleep seems to improve if hearing impaired use hearing aids.

Are you generally satisfied with the quality of your sleep?

similar for Germany/France
Quality of sleep: Not trivial!

'Significant costs' of sleep disorder

Sleep problems cost billions

SLEEP DISORDERS COST AUSTRALIA MORE THAN 5 BILLION PER YEAR

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89% think people don’t make fun of them because of their HAs. More people make fun of hearing impaired non-users.

Hearing aid owners: How often do you feel you are made fun of or rejected because you are wearing a hearing aid?

- 74% Never
- 15% Rarely
- 9% Occasionally
- 2% Regularly

Hearing impaired non-owners: How often do you feel you are made fun of or rejected because of your hearing loss?

- 36% Never
- 26% Rarely
- 9% Occasionally
- 28% Regularly

similar in UK/France
Positive impact of using hearing aids in vital areas
Obs: Self-reported

Since you started using your hearing aid(s), please rate the changes you have experienced in each of the following areas, that you believe are due to your hearing aid(s).

Overall ability to communicate more effectively in most situations
- 9% a lot worse
- 25% worse
- 46% the same
- 39% better
- 19% a lot better

Social life
- 6% a lot worse
- 35% worse
- 39% the same
- 18% better
- 18% a lot better

Ability to participate in group activities
- 6% a lot worse
- 35% worse
- 39% the same
- 17% better
- 17% a lot better

Relationships at home
- 8% a lot worse
- 39% worse
- 33% the same
- 19% better
- 19% a lot better

Sense of independence
- 8% a lot worse
- 42% worse
- 34% the same
- 16% better
- 16% a lot better

Sense of safety
- 6% a lot worse
- 48% worse
- 31% the same
- 14% better
- 14% a lot better

Confidence in yourself
- 5% a lot worse
- 49% worse
- 32% the same
- 13% better
- 13% a lot better

Relationships at work
- 9% a lot worse
- 46% worse
- 29% the same
- 15% better
- 15% a lot better

Mental/emotional health
- 7% a lot worse
- 54% worse
- 26% the same
- 12% better
- 12% a lot better

Feelings about yourself
- 5% a lot worse
- 55% worse
- 27% the same
- 11% better
- 11% a lot better

Mental ability
- 4% a lot worse
- 61% worse
- 26% the same
- 9% better
- 9% a lot better

Physical health
- 5% a lot worse
- 63% worse
- 20% the same
- 11% better
- 11% a lot better
UK: Commission on Hearing Loss: Final Report
July, 2014

- People with hearing loss:
  - Communication difficulties
  - Social isolation
  - Mental and physical health problems
  - Dementia
  - Lower employment rate

This costs the UK economy 24.8 billion £ per year and this is if you measure lost output only!
- This equals a cost of 27 billion $ for a population of 64 million.
- Approx. 135 billion $ per year in the USA
UK: Ear Foundation
"The Real Cost of Adult Hearing Loss" (2014)

- The cost of hearing loss in the UK per year: 30 billion £ (of which direct costs of the UK hearing healthcare account for less than ½ billion).

- So, 29.5 billion £ are the costs of untreated hearing loss.

- Do the math for the US
Danish research, 2006

- Age group 50 – 65 years
- Hearing loss costs Danish Society 2.7 billion DKK per year due to productivity loss
- Corresponds to approx 400 million $ in a country with 5.5 mill
- = approx 24 billion USD for the USA
Dutch research, 2011

- Hearing loss is the **6th most expensive health condition** in the Netherlands
- Costs Dutch society **950 million € per year**
- Gets worse with the ageing of society
Sweden, 2008

- 54% of all hearing impaired Swedes are between 16 and 64, i.e. working age

- Hearing loss is not just a problem for ”old people”!
Costs?

- Unicef: The costs of exclusion far outweigh the costs of inclusion

- EU Commissioner for Health, Vytenis Andriukaitis: this is a matter of investment, not expenditure.
My 12 minutes are up