Hearing Impairment

Abi Harrison-Nye

Symptoms

- Difficulty hearing people clearly, especially in noisy or crowded places.
- Asking others to repeat themselves or mishearing what's been said.
- Needing a higher volume on the television, radio, or phone.

Age & Gender

- Prevalence increases with age, particularly for those over 50.
- It affects males and females at similar rates, though males often have more noise-induced loss.

Misconceptions

- It’s not just an 'older person's problem'. It can affect people of all ages.
- Not everyone who is hard of hearing uses or knows sign language.
- It’s not solved by just shouting, which can distort the sound.

Diagnosis

- Audiologists measure the quietest sounds you can hear.
- Physical exams check for earwax, fluid, or eardrum damage.

Treatment

- Hearing aids or cochlear implants clarify sounds.
- Loop systems and speech-to-text apps improve accessibility.

Support

- Face the person directly and keep your mouth visible while speaking.
- Reduce background noise when holding meetings or conversations.
- Use written follow-ups to ensure all verbal information was understood.

This information isn't a diagnostic tool. If you recognise these symptoms in yourself or others, please contact a doctor.

AbiHarrisonNye.dev