



▼ UNDERGRADUATE ABSTRACTS

UG -8 : THE IMPACT OF PRESBYCUSIS ON QUALITY OF LIFE

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Introduction: Hearing loss is one of the most common sensory impairment affecting the elderly. With increase in life expectancy globally, presbycusis has become a major problem. The hearing loss can affect the social, emotional, psychological and functional wellbeing of an individual. Understanding the impact of hearing loss in various aspects of health can help us in understanding their needs better.

Methodology: The study was conducted in 100 people more than 60 years of age with hearing loss. Hearing was assessed using pure tone audiometer. Pure tone average was calculated. HHIE questionnaire was used to calculate the handicap scores from which the degree

of handicap was assessed. The severity of handicap was correlated with the degree of hearing loss.

Results: From the study it was found that hearing loss in elderly people causes significant handicap (69%). There was statistically significant correlation between the degree of hearing loss and the severity of handicap ($p=0.00$).

Conclusion: From the findings in the study it can be concluded that hearing loss in older adults significantly impairs their quality of life. Any worsening in hearing will further impair the social and emotional aspects of life.