

Researching

At the cutting edge – for your benefit

We know how important good hearing is for living a happy, self-sufficient life. That's why we're committed to international research projects.

Research topics include:

- the connection between hearing loss and aging;
- the development of new therapies;
- the efficacy of present-day forms of intervention for the hearing impaired;
- the world of work as it affects hearing-impaired children and adults.

The International Hearing Foundation develops recommendations for action and identifies research fields that are key to making progress: to improve early detection, diagnosis, therapy and prevention of hearing impairment.

For us, good hearing is more than a sensory function. We see it as a crucial part of one's personality – which is why we do our very best to safeguard it.

For your health's sake

The International Hearing Foundation, a non-profit organisation, is politically and commercially independent. The Foundation presents its work to a wide public at scientific conventions and events for those affected.

With your support we can achieve the Foundation's goals, as hearing loss concerns us all.

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As per the notice of exemption issued by the Hannover North district tax office dated 3 Aug. 2012, the Foundation is recognised as a charity for tax purposes.



Understanding
Helping
Researching



Hearing loss concerns us all

Good hearing, a prerequisite for speech and communication, is something we take for granted. Unfortunately, we don't take good care of our most delicate sensory organ. About 15 per cent of the population – across all age groups – is hearing impaired, which gives great cause for concern in a society so driven by communication.

Hearing loss is invisible but has a far-reaching impact:

- Lack of speech development in children
- Loss of employment and social isolation in adults

However, effective methods for early detection, subsequent diagnostic procedures and therapy are already available today.

Regrettably, social acceptance of this very common disability is low – with negative consequences for the hearing impaired.

This is where the International Hearing Foundation comes in.

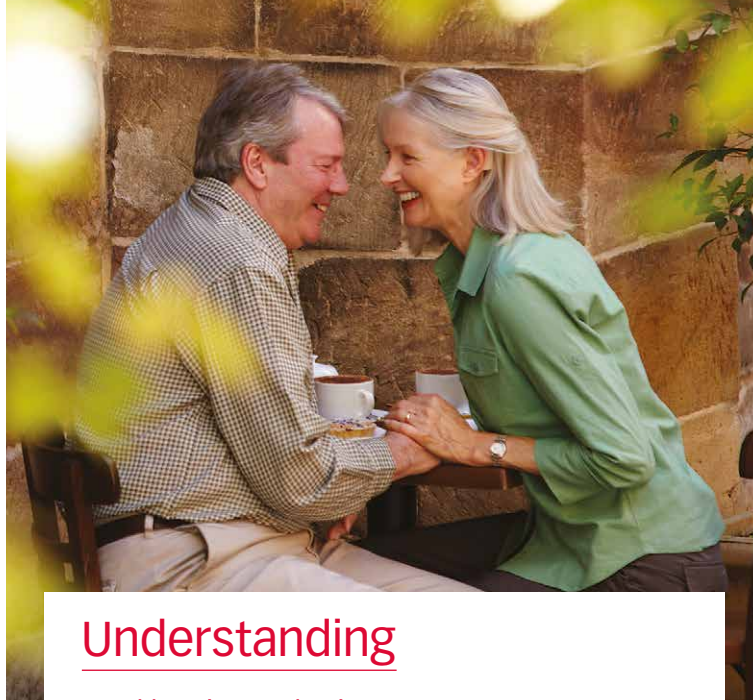
Understanding – helping – researching: this is our motto.

UNDERSTANDING where there is insufficient awareness of, and attention paid to, the issue of hearing impairment and its impact.

HELPING those affected to live self-sufficient lives and be integrated into the hearing world.

RESEARCHING to improve diagnostics, therapy, intervention and prevention, and to identify where government and the community need to act.

An international network of leading scientists is committed to these goals.



Understanding

good hearing – a basic prerequisite for communication

There is more to good hearing than is generally realised. Hearing is crucial in our communication-driven society: without it, children can't develop speech, and conversations, phone calls and modern-media-based communication are impossible. Hearing-impaired people are often isolated. The International Hearing Foundation promotes social awareness concerning good hearing.

Did you know that ...

- fifteen per cent of the population has hearing loss that requires treatment?
- out of every 1,000 children born, one has a congenital hearing disorder and another develops pronounced hearing loss that affects their speech acquisition and hence all educational and work-related opportunities?
- the number of us with hearing loss increases sharply as we get older? From the age of 65, over half of the population is affected.
- it is possible these days for hearing loss to be detected in sufficient time, diagnosed and (in many cases) effectively treated?

Helping

Hearing well is not a luxury

The International Hearing Foundation's desire is for everyone – people with and without a hearing impairment – to experience good hearing. Those with auditory problems need to be empowered to live confident lives within their families and communities.

Our goals include:

- Early detection of hearing impairment in newborn, pre-school and school-age children by means of a long-term auditory screening programme
- Ensuring that the right therapy is begun at the right time so that lasting deficiencies in speech acquisition can be avoided
- Raising awareness of the causes of hearing impairment in both children and adults, and how it can be prevented
- Guidance on the diagnostic and therapeutic possibilities now available
- Supporting affected parents and educational institutions
- Ongoing assistance and mentoring on career choices

