Hearing and Cognition in Older Adults

INTRODUCTION

As people age, they often experience a variety of health-related issues, including hearing loss and memory difficulties. This journal self-study explores the relationship between hearing loss and cognitive functioning and considers what is known about age-related cognitive decline and how it may be influenced by hearing loss and the use of amplification. As the primary provider of hearing-related services for older adults, audiologists are in a position to address cognitive issues and assist patients and families. This journal course discusses strategies on how to do so effectively.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:
- discuss the relationship between hearing loss and cognition in older adults
- explain how hearing aid use may affect cognition
- explain at least two models or processes that can help older adults with cognitive challenges
- discuss the audiologist’s role in addressing cognition in adults with hearing loss

CONTENTS

Cognitive Decline and Hearing Health Care for Older Adults,
by M. Kathleen Pichora-Fuller ................................................................. CE-1


Analysis of Performance on Cognitive Test Measures Before, During, and After 6 Months of Hearing Aid Use: A Single-Subject Experimental Design, by Jamie L. Desjardins......................................................... CE-8

Hearing Loss and Cognitive-Communication Test Performance of Long-Term Care Residents With Dementia: Effects of Amplification, by Tammy Hopper, Susan E. Slaughter, Bill Hodgetts, Amberly Ostevik, and Carla Ickert ......................................................... CE-23

Using Cognitive Screening Tests in Audiology, by Jing Shen, Melinda C. Anderson, Kathryn H. Arehart, and Pamela E. Souza................. CE-33
PROGRAM HISTORY and IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Articles originally published in ASHA’s scholarly journals

Start date: September 25, 2017
Available through: September 23, 2021

To earn continuing education credit, you must complete the test with a passing score on or before September 23, 2021.

To see if this program has been renewed after this date, please search by title in ASHA’s online store at www.asha.org/shop.

This course is offered for 0.35 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area).

STATEMENT ON EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

It is the position of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association that audiologists and speech-language pathologists incorporate the principles of evidence-based practice in clinical decision making to provide high-quality clinical care. The term evidence-based practice refers to an approach in which current, high-quality research evidence is integrated with practitioner expertise and client preferences and values into the process of making clinical decisions.

Participants are encouraged to actively seek and critically evaluate the evidence basis for clinical procedures presented in this and other educational programs.

Adopted by the Scientific and Professional Education Board, April 2006