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SoundNEWS

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HEARING LOSS & DIABETES

Early hearing checks and treatment can make a difference.

What do hearing loss and diabetes have in common?

They're both prevalent public-health challenges affecting millions of people across the United States and around the world.

About 48 million U.S. children and adults have some form of hearing loss, according to Johns Hopkins research, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that diabetes — a chronic metabolic disease — affects more than 29 million Americans alone.

But did you know that diabetes and hearing loss may share an even closer connection?

- ✦ Hearing disorders are twice as common in people with diabetes.
- ✦ People with diabetes can have a harder time hearing speech in noisy environments.
- ✦ Both age-related and diabetes-related hearing problems commonly affect higher-frequency hearing, making it more difficult to hear in background noise.
- ✦ The rate of hearing loss among people with prediabetes is 30 percent greater than for those with normal blood-sugar levels.

It's not yet known all the ways that diabetes and hearing impairment are linked, but research has identified poor blood flow to the cochlea or inner ear as a potential culprit in hearing loss among diabetic patients.

As evidence of links between hearing loss and diabetes continues to grow, researchers recommend that annual hearing evaluations be a standard part of the health care regimen for people with diabetes.

What can you do? Stick to regular hearing care, which can make a big difference in overall wellness and quality of life. Diabetes-related hearing loss could affect one or both ears, may occur gradually or suddenly, and could appear with or without balance-related problems, but routine hearing checks can help identify potential problems early.

Take control of your overall health and wellness with an annual hearing exam. Call us to schedule your appointment today. 610.866.2929



Refer a Friend!

If you have a friend with diabetes, refer them to us for a free hearing screening. Just have them mention this article when they call.

Cannot be combined with any other promotional discount. Expires 7/31/17.

Office NEWS



Dr. Janel Briggs, Au.D.

We are delighted to welcome Dr. Janel Briggs to our practice! Janel earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Penn State and her Doctorate of Audiology from the Audiology Consortium of Kent State, the University of Akron, and the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Briggs recently completed a one-year externship with the Geisinger Medical Center.

Janel says, "I'm very excited to be a part of the Center for Audiology Services family! I am passionate about the field of audiology, especially hearing evaluations, noise-induced hearing loss, and hearing aid fittings. My fiancé and I are

new to the area, and we're looking forward to exploring a new community."

Please say hello to Dr. Briggs during your next visit to our office!

We're also very pleased to note that Ms. Stacy Wambold recently joined our practice as a full-time patient care coordinator in our front office. Stacy has more than 20 years of experience in customer service and as an executive assistant. Most recently, she was executive assistant to the CEO at Harvel Plastics in Forks Township. Stacy and her family are longtime residents of Wind Gap. If you've been to our office in the past few months, you may have already met Stacy and experienced her helpful, friendly nature at the front desk or on the telephone. We're extremely happy to have Stacy on the Center for Audiology team!