

Audiological management of adults with severe and profound hearing loss

Guidelines for best practice¹



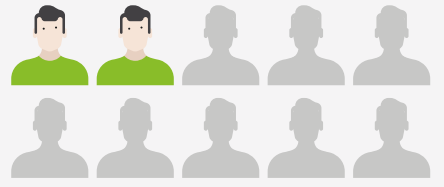
Mild to moderate hearing loss:
widely understood

vs.

Severe and profound hearing loss:
little guidance available

2/10

adults seeking treatment have
severe to profound hearing loss³



Definition²:

Severe hearing loss: average 61 - 80 dB HL
Profound hearing loss: average > 81 dB HL



Expert panel consensus recommendations

Those with severe and profound hearing loss need....



Counseling on continuum of hearing technologies

These conversations are vital to understanding that hearing aids need not be the final stop on their hearing journey.



Extra consideration when selecting and fitting hearing aids

In order to maintain audibility and support aided speech recognition, fitting approaches beyond the standard 'initial fit' are required.



Immediate consideration of remote microphones

Remote microphone technology should be considered at the same time as selection of hearing aids and/or cochlear implants.



Communication training and strategies

Beyond hearing technology, communication abilities can be enhanced with auditory skills training and communication strategies.



Early focus on tinnitus

Approximately 50% of these individuals report tinnitus and addressing the hearing loss is the starting point for treatment.



Successfully managing these complex needs requires ongoing professional development of skills which support your client's well-being, with:

1. Continued hearing device optimization and maintenance
2. Self-management strategies
3. Counseling and support
4. Referral onward when appropriate



Start today with new expert guidance on the management of severe and profound hearing loss by visiting www.phonakpro.com/severe-to-profound-hearing-loss

¹Turton, L (editor), Souza, P, Thibodeau, L, Hickson, L, Gifford, R, Bird, J, Stropahl, M, Gailey, L, Fulton, B, Scarinci, N, Ekberg, K, Timmer, B. (2020). Guidelines for Best Practice in the Audiological Management of Adults with Severe and Profound Hearing Loss. *Seminars in Hearing*, 41(3), 141-245.

²World Health Organization (WHO) (2012). Promoting ear and hearing care through CBR Community-Based Rehabilitation. World Health Organization. Retrieved from http://www.who.int/about/licensing/copyright_form/en/index.html, accessed July 26th 2019.

³Carlsson P, Hjalidahl J, Magnuson A, Terneval E, Eden M, Skagerskarand A, & Jonsson R (2014). Severe to profound hearing impairment: quality of life, psychosocial consequences and audiological rehabilitation. *Disability & Rehabilitation, Early Online*: 1-8.