

## **Looking at Non-Occupational Noise-Induced Hearing Loss**

Neil DiSarno<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)

Corresponding author's e-mail address: pmason@asha.org

## **ABSTRACT**

Although many countries have programs in place to reduce the risk of work-related hearing loss, noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) continues to rank among the most prevalent conditions worldwide. The World Health Organization estimates 60% of hearing losses are preventable. Noise exposure from non-occupational or recreational sources contribute to the continuing burden on NIHL across the world. In fact, the social acceptability of noise in the general makes it difficult to raise concern about the health impact of high levels of noise.

This poster will present a "picture" of the problem of non-occupational hearing loss and a path forward towards prevention. Key points for consumer education will be presented visually as an infographic. The poster will summarize this public health issue - including the prevalence of non-occupational NIHL and tinnitus, the effects of noise exposure on the hearing mechanism, common sources the non-occupational noise exposure, the social and economic impact of NIHL, and how to preserve hearing and avoid tinnitus and other noise related effects. This infographic poster will be available as a free download via a QR code and link.