Proposal: Informing Patients about the Implications of Noise-Induced Hearing Loss

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Significance: As the use of personal listening devices has increased tremendously in the past decade, noise-induced hearing loss has become a prevalent issue in today’s medical field.1 A prolonged listening of these devices can lead to a noise induced threshold shift, thus lowering the hearing ability of many individuals, particularly adolescents.2 Hearing loss can have psychosocial consequences not just for the individual patient but also for his or her relationships with friends and family members.3 The goal of this activity is to address these implications and provide practitioners with the means to communicate this information.

Audience: The target audience of the presentation is family practitioners, audiologists, and ENTs. The following information is focused on increasing awareness of the implications of noise-induced hearing loss and providing these doctors the means to provide the highest quality of care for their patients who may be experiencing such hearing loss.

Learning Objectives: Upon completion of this activity, practitioners will be able to:
1. Identify patients who are at risk or are already suffering from noise-induced hearing loss.
2. Understand which information regarding hearing loss should be relayed to the patients and their families.
3. Recommend when patients should take further action and what corresponding steps should be followed.

References
