

May 2017



Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore of Long Island Chapter

Meeting Location

Long Island Jewish Hearing & Speech Center is located on the grounds of the Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

Enter the grounds from LAKEVILLE ROAD and it is the first building on your left. Free parking is available behind the hearing and speech building: first entrance to parking lot after building. DO NOT go into the main parking building. Go to the Conference room on the Lower Level 270-05 76th Avenue New Hyde Park, NY 11040.

If you are in doubt as to whether there is a meeting, or if you'd like further information, please call Sal: 516-331-0231.

Meeting News

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Refreshments and Social Time begins 6:30pm.

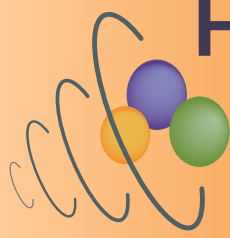
Meeting begins 7:00pm.

Topic: Hearing Loss and Older Adults

Hearing loss is one of the most common disabilities in the aging U.S. population, with over 70% of adults aged 75 and up having sensorineural hearing loss (SNHL). We'll discuss different aspects of the hearing process, how age can play an important role in that, and how all of this affects older adults.

Speaker: Katrien Vermeire, PhD, CCC-A, Visiting Assistant Professor LIU Brooklyn Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Katrien received a MSc in Audiology and Speech and Language Pathology from the Catholic University of Leuven (1997), a BSc in Audiology from the Lessius University College (1998) and a PhD in Medical Science at the University of Antwerp (2006), in Belgium. After a long and illustrious career, Katrien now is a visiting assistant professor at the University of Long Island and an adjunct clinical instructor and professor at NYU Steinhardt. Her clinical and scientific experience has focused on cochlear implantation as a treatment for tinnitus, cochlear implantation for single sided deafness, electric-acoustic stimulation and bimodal stimulation. Katrien is on the editorial board of Audiology journals and has written extensively on cochlear implantation.



Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore of Long Island Chapter

Chapter Planning Committee

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HLAA of North Shore Long Island does not necessarily endorse the opinions of our speakers, goods & services.

April Meeting Recap

By Claudia Block

Dr. Aniruddha K. Deshpande, PhD, CCC-A, currently a research professor at Hofstra University Speech and Hearing Center, spoke at our April 19th meeting. Dr. Deshpande is an expert on tinnitus, cochlear implants, amplification and neuro-imaging. His talk to our chapter highlighted tinnitus; current research and the recent breakthroughs for assessment and management of tinnitus in different populations. This is an important topic for hearing impaired folks as 75% of us have or will encounter tinnitus in our lifetime!

Tinnitus can be described as the ringing in our ears that hearing impaired and some non hearing impaired people face. Dr. Deshpande is currently teaching and working on research affecting people with tinnitus. He focused his talk on the current research and the new management techniques that are used to mask tinnitus. He told us that more than 30 million people are plagued with tinnitus in our country. As people age, the prevalence of tinnitus also increases. Damage to inner ear cells or random firing of auditory neurons may be another cause. To date, no one reason can define why some people are plagued with this. Nor is there yet a definitive cure. A though evaluation by an audiologist may help identify those triggers that increase the many noises of tinnitus. For some, it can be different foods, alcohol, wax buildup or a variety of medication. Others report a decrease in the sounds when they received cochlear implants. Part of Dr. Deshpande's current research includes a detailed questionnaire on the causes and triggers of tinnitus. The questionnaire helps researches with creating a management plan for sufferers. Website is listed as the end of this article.

Dr. Deshpande stresses that although strides have been made in current research management techniques for tinnitus, there is still unfortunately no cure. Clinical trials are working to help reproduce damaged hearing hair cells, hoping to decrease tinnitus and increase the ability to hear. Not for lack of trying but this hasn't happened yet. Other facets of the research include the effect of hearing aides and or cochlear implants have on tinnitus. Increased

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How Children With Cochlear Implants Learn Words

One expert's experience helping deaf children learn to speak.

By Derek Houston, USnews.com

For many children born deaf, a cochlear implant can be a miracle. Toddlers can typically have the device implanted 12 months after birth, meaning they can begin learning to hear soon after learning to take their first steps.

And yet, most of us begin to learn language while still in the womb, so a child with a cochlear implant already faces a disadvantage in learning spoken language. Further complicating progress, the implant isn't a perfect replacement for natural hearing—it requires training and regular device adjustments.

For those and other reasons, many not yet known, language development can be delayed for deaf children—and the variability is immense. Some children speak so well they communicate indistinguishably from their typical-hearing counterparts, while other children develop almost no spoken-language skills.

So it should come as no surprise that parents of deaf children can struggle to communicate with them. This is why my colleagues and I at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center are examining how children with cochlear implants learn words differently than their peers. We're trying to figure out what catches a child's attention during play, and how parents might use that information to better communicate with their children.

Learning to Speak

When people communicate, we're not just hearing each other. There are all sorts of visual cues, plus cues from touch—in fact, all of our senses are active. When hearing is a challenge, those other cues become even more important in helping a child comprehend speech.

More than 90 percent of children with hearing loss are born to normal-hearing parents, and many studies suggest there's often a communication disconnect. Most parents have had little to no experience communicating with deaf adults, let alone kids. So to better understand how to remove those barriers, we've developed a way to carefully record how a parent and deaf child interact when new words are introduced.

We provide the parent with three objects, each a different color, that we cobbled together from various shapes—they look like toys you'd see in a Dr. Seuss book. We give each a made-up name and then ask the parent to teach that name to the child. It's freeplay, letting loose the language development process and then mining the rich data.

That data comes from video taken at several angles, using cameras in the room and head-mounted cameras with eye-trackers. We can record exactly where the child's focus is, what they're holding and how they react when a new word is said.

Read more here: <http://bit.ly/2p5ddZA>

If You're New, This is for You!

More than 48 million people in the US have a hearing loss, which can hinder daily communication. By age 65, one in three Americans has a hearing loss. This invisible condition affects the quality of life of the individuals with hearing loss, as well as family, friends, co-workers and everyone with whom they interact. HLAA believes people with hearing loss can participate successfully in today's world.

Founded in 1979, the mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support and advocacy.

HLAA is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. HLAA publishes the bimonthly *Hearing Loss Magazine*, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: www.HearingLoss.org

The North Shore Chapter is a dynamic group of individuals working together as a team. To join, please fill out the Membership Form in this newsletter. Welcome!



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Chicago-Based Group Brings Smiles to Deaf Syrian Children

Chicago-based charity tries to help hard-of-hearing Syrian refugee children and their parents in Lebanon

By PHILIP ISSA, Associated Press

BAR ELIAS, Lebanon (AP) — Six-year-old Aya al-Souqi, a Syrian refugee, held the camera phone up to her gaze and listened to hear her mother. "I hear you!" she exclaimed.

It was only the second time she'd spoken to her mother in Beeskow, Germany since getting fitted with a hearing aid by a Chicago-based charity to treat an invisible wound of the Syrian war. Aya, timid and diminutive, was a little over a year old in 2012 when a rocket struck her family's house in the Eastern Ghouta countryside, outside the Syrian capital, Damascus. The strike killed Aya's father and, the family believes, damaged her right ear. Shortly afterward, the family moved to the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon, where hundreds of thousands of other Syrians now live as refugees, to wait out a war whose conclusion is still a speck on the horizon.

"She used to respond to her name and play with other children," said her grandmother, Hayan Hashmeh. "When we came to Lebanon, we noticed that her hearing was very limited."

The proudly named "Deaf Planet Soul" charity is bringing smiles to hard-of-hearing Syrian children and their parents in Lebanon on a two-week long mission to treat hearing loss. Most, though not all, have been affected by the Syrian war. But for many of the young patients, it's the first time they have sat down with therapists and audiologists for treatment.

He was working "16 hours a day" in two mental health jobs in Chicago when one closed down.

Read more here: <http://bit.ly/2p6IlrV>

April Meeting Recap, Continued from Page 2

information on cognitive behavior counseling and therapy is also part of the arsenal used in the fight to alleviate tinnitus symptoms. Several new options are still being studied and researched include a surgically implanted device to stimulate the vagus nerve by pairing it with auditory stimulation. Although some patients have found tinnitus relief with his technique, this is a surgical procedure not yet approved for use in the USA.

Dr. Deshpande stressed that although the research is promising and strides are being made, there is presently no cure for tinnitus. Current studies are going on at his Hofstra research center. People can view their website for further information about current trials and past studies and research. It is an exciting field; one that I hope expands to find some solutions for those of us suffering from this annoying and sometimes debilitating disorder. Once again, a great topic of interest was presented and important information was given to our members and people of the community that attended this important informational meeting.

Hofstra University welcomes you to participate in its Tinnitus Research Study:
<http://bit.ly/2ovZmza>

HLAA opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support, and advocacy. HLAA is a 501(c)(3) organization.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

I'd like to: ☐ Become a member of HLAA ☐ Renew my membership ☐ Give a gift membership

My Membership/Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Chapter I belong to: _____

How did you learn about HLAA? _____

Gift Membership

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	Annual USA Membership Fees	Annual Non-USA Membership Fees
Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35 (1 year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$95 (3 years) <input type="checkbox"/> \$140 (5 years)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 (1 year)
Couple/Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55 (1 year)
Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 (1 year)
Library/Nonprofit	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 (1 year)
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 (1 year)	N/A
Corporate	<input type="checkbox"/> \$300 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$325 (1 year)

My membership fee is \$ _____

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My total is \$ _____

3 Ways to Join, Renew or Give a Gift Membership

1. Return this form to your chapter with your check made payable to HLAA.
2. Mail or fax this form to the HLAA office at the address above with your credit card information.
3. Visit www.hearingloss.org/content/join and use your credit card online. (this is a secure website)

Credit Card Payment Information: ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Name: _____ (as it appears on card)

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Donating Hearing Aids to the Lions Club

By Michelle Gross

If you have used hearing aids to donate, please address the package to:

John McNamara, Au.D., Ontario Hearing
2210 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY 14618

Put on the lower left corner of the package:
"Finger Lakes Region Lions Club"

(Cleaning tools, cases, most accessories, etc. have virtually no value and are discarded.) Aids that are usable are cleaned and checked and made ready for sending to the Lions Club for qualified recipients.

You can obtain a receipt for your donation (for tax purposes) but **you must request it**. And, thanks for considering donating your used aids.

Trudie Katz Walker

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North Shore of Long Island Chapter
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Join us at the
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in Salt Lake
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For more information,
details and schedules, visit:
[http://www.hearingloss.org/
content/convention](http://www.hearingloss.org/content/convention)