



This is Paige Alder. She's come in today because there is a mole on the back of her shoulder that she's a bit worried about. You notice that when you are behind her, Paige asks you to repeat what you said a couple of times. Paige has never mentioned any problem with her hearing.

## Hearing loss in adults: It matters!



- How would you check if Paige has hearing loss?
- What risk factors for hearing loss would you look for?
- What would you do if you identify that Paige has hearing loss?
- What are the consequences of hearing loss in adults?

Australian Hearing has put together a comprehensive Plan, Do, Study, Act education activity to help you and your practice team identify and support adult patients with hearing loss.



Request this resource by contacting Australian Hearing on 1800 776 631

With around 60% of Australian adults over 60 years affected by hearing loss, it's one of the most common conditions of older people. Yet most people don't realise they are slowly losing their hearing – and their ability to communicate. If left undetected, hearing loss can have serious consequences for health and wellbeing.

# Hearing loss: quality improvement activity

Would you like to help your older patients stay connected with their friends, family and community?

Hearing is key to how we communicate with each other and receive information from our environment. Left undetected, hearing loss in adults can lead to significant health, social and economic problems, such as falls, cognitive decline, social isolation and reduced capacity to learn and work.

Despite its prevalence and impact, hearing loss in adults is under-recognised and under-treated.

General practices play a vital role in reversing this by:

- Raising patient awareness of hearing loss and its importance
- Recognising who should be screened for hearing loss
- Identifying appropriate pathways for those with hearing loss
- Providing patients with accurate information about the resources available to manage hearing loss.

To help your practice identify and manage hearing loss in patients, Australian Hearing has developed a **Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA)** activity, complete with a toolkit and educational resource.

PDSA activities can be submitted to the RACGP QI&CPD program to be recognised for 40 self-directed category 1 points and can be used towards practice accreditation.\*



Request this resource by contacting Australian Hearing on 1800 776 631.

\*under criterion 3.1.1 of the Standards for General Practices (4th ed)

