

Evidence Based Practice (EBP) findings for Audiologic Rehab Issues Using-Rating of-Support Based on an A, B, C, D or I-VI Quality Rating (quality A or I is best)

(Johnson, 2012)

1. There is evidence rated at a B level that hearing aids improve health related quality of life.
2. There is evidence rated at a B level that several common features of hearing aid fitting are beneficial including patients using self-assessment tools prior to hearing aid fitting and non-auditory needs of patients should be considered including general health, manual dexterity, vision, support systems, etc.
3. There is only limited support at a IV quality for measuring loudness discomfort (LDL) level in hearing aid fitting.
4. Other various common considerations in hearing aid selection range from A to D in level of evidence for conventional fitting decisions as follows—style of aid (B and C), binaural fitting (B), telecoil issues (C), output level (B), multiple memories (A), digital noise reduction (D), and directional microphones (B), Electroacoustic analysis (D), gain prescriptive methods (B), Speech signals used for verification (B), probe tube measures (B).
5. Hearing assistive technology is supported at B and C levels.
6. Hearing aid orientation features are supported at levels from A to C, including use and maintenance information (B and C), post fitting counseling (A and B), including significant others in counseling (B), either one on one or group (B), adjustment takes time (B).
7. Screening for hearing loss in all newborns is supported by a B level of evidence.
8. Auditory habilitation methods do not have demonstrated outcomes using high levels of evidence so parents must be critical consumers of information and make the best decisions possible.
9. Counseling based group auditory rehabilitation programs showed good evidence of improved quality of life, and improved use of communication strategies and hearing aids.

Reference

Johnson, C. E. (2011). Introduction to auditory rehabilitation: A contemporary issues approach. Boston: Pearson