

# Assessing readiness for hearing rehabilitation

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## Propositions

1. Hearing aid stigma is more prevalent among those who either wear a hearing aid or those with no hearing impairment at all.
2. The added information of the middle response category of the HARQ items is negligible.
3. The fact that hearing handicap is reported by non-hearing impaired persons suggests that it is not just hearing impairment which impedes successful communication.
4. Third Person Disability plays an important factor in determining health status pertaining to hearing.
5. Failing audiometric screening cannot be equated with being aware of one's hearing impairment but rather as a factor contributing to that awareness.
6. Not seeking help for hearing impairment should not be viewed as unhealthy behavior until the individual experiences disability and declines taking steps to remedy it.
7. Children should learn about the importance of hearing for a good quality of life.
8. Better technology is still needed to address the functioning of hearing aids in situations with background noise.
9. Item Response Theory is not only a valuable tool for refining questionnaire items to provide optimal care but contributes to a better understanding of the patient journey.
10. While the state of perfection exists only in theory, the practice of striving towards perfection is a necessary but not sufficient condition to attain any semblance of perfection.
11. There is one thing worse than having too much work, and that is not having any work at all.
12. Postponing writing a PhD thesis until retirement is cost-effective and less stressful for the candidate.