

Hearing Aid Problems Survey (HAPS)

Description: The HAPS evaluates 26 items describing problems associated with hearing aid use across two domains: 1. Hearing aid management, and 2. Hearing aid sound quality and performance.

Administration: The HAPS can be administered in a paper based or electronic format. Instructions are included on the top of the survey. Clients are required to indicate whether they currently experience any of the hearing aid related problems listed using a dichotomous yes/no response. A “Not Applicable” option is also available.

Scoring: Scoring of the HAPS is calculated by summing the total number of items identified as problematic, dividing this by the number of items for which a response was given (i.e. excluding the “Not Applicable” responses), and multiplying by 100 to give score for hearing aid problems experienced.. Items are equally weighted. A higher overall score indicates a greater number of problems currently being experienced (i.e., a score of 0% represents no current problems identified by the survey).

Interpretation: The survey score represents percentage of problems, with a higher score indicating a greater *number* of areas of difficulty (not the *degree* of difficulty). This survey score can be used to compare the extent hearing aid related problems for a single hearing aid owner before and after assistance, or between hearing aid owners or group of owners (such as used for research purposes).

The overall pass/fail (whether the participant scored 0% or more on the survey) can be used to indicate whether a hearing aid owner is experiencing a problem with at least one item listed on the survey and thus would benefit from assistance from the clinic. The clinician can then peruse each item on the survey to ascertain specifically which item(s) require attention, in essence, using the survey as a training action list.

Referencing the HAPS: Bennett RJ, Laplante-Lévesque, A., Meyer CJ, Eikelboom RH. (2018). Prevalence and impact of problems associated with hearing aid use.

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Please notify if used for research purposes. research@earscience.org.au

Hearing Aid Problems Survey (HAPS)

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Clinic: _____

Today's Date: _____

Please mark the response that best reflects your ability to perform each task.
Please select **one** response for each question.

Please indicate which of these are a problem for you			
Hearing aid management			
Trouble inserting the hearing aid	Yes	No	N/A
My hearing aid sometimes falls off/out of my ear	Yes	No	N/A
My hearing aid doesn't sit properly when wearing my glasses	Yes	No	N/A
My hearing aid whistles (feedback)	Yes	No	N/A
My hearing aid is uncomfortable, or it makes my ears itch	Yes	No	N/A
Trouble changing the battery, or knowing when to change the battery	Yes	No	N/A
Trouble making program or volume changes on the hearing aid	Yes	No	N/A
Trouble changing the small components of the hearing aid, such as microphone cover or dome	Yes	No	N/A
I am unsure what the buttons on my hearing aid do	Yes	No	N/A
Trouble using my remote control/ Bluetooth streamer/ TV streamer	Yes	No	N/A
I'm not sure what to do when the hearing aid stops working	Yes	No	N/A
I'm not sure how to fix my hearing aid if it gets wet	Yes	No	N/A
I have a dry aid kit (dehumidifier or dry store) and want to use it, but don't know how	Yes	No	N/A
Hearing aid sound quality & performance			
My hearing aid makes some sounds too loud	Yes	No	N/A
I have trouble hearing certain voices with my hearing aid	Yes	No	N/A
My hearing aid picks up sounds that I do not want to hear	Yes	No	N/A
My hearing aid sounds tinny and sharp	Yes	No	N/A
I hear better through one hearing aid than the other and this bothers me	Yes	No	N/A
It is difficult to hear people speaking from behind me	Yes	No	N/A
My hearing aid cannot pick up people speaking from the next room	Yes	No	N/A
My own voice sounds echoey	Yes	No	N/A
Listening to music isn't enjoyable as the hearing aid distorts the sound	Yes	No	N/A
My hearing aid doesn't work well in noisy environments	Yes	No	N/A
My hearing aid doesn't work well in windy environments	Yes	No	N/A
Hearing on the phone is still difficult when wearing the hearing aid	Yes	No	N/A