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Tinnitus Assessment in Young Musicians

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Noise-Induced Hearing Loss Webinar Series 2013

Acceptable Strategies for Prevention of Noise- and Music-Induced Hearing Loss
Brian J. Fligor, ScD

Tinnitus Assessment in Young Musicians
Frank Wartinger, AuD

Food for Thought: Nutrition and Noise
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Tinnitus Assessment in Young Musicians

Frank Wartinger, Au.D.
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Young Musicians

Musicians who are also young...

- 1) 'Young' – under 18 years
- 2) 'Musician' – one who participates in music

Young Musicians

Musicians who are also young...

- 1) 'Young' – under 18 years
- 2) 'Musician' – one who participates in music
 - School band Marching band
 - Garage band
 - School choir Music listener

Photos from www.dreamstime.com and www.n

Young Musicians

Musicians who are also young...

- 1) 'Young' – under 18 years
- 2) 'Musician' – one who participates in music

School band

School choir

Garage band

Marching band

Music listener


Photos from www.dreamstime.com and www.n...

Why talk about youth?


- Tinnitus in youth is under reported and poorly understood
- Children are at high risk for intense and sustained sound exposure
- Medical-legal issues with minors
- Limited education/exposure
- Psychosocial aspects
- Invincible youth

Why talk about musicians?


- Cultural sensitivity training for musicians
- Emphasis on hearing/listening acuity
- Musicians are at high risk for intense and sustained sound exposure
- Unregulated industry
- Limited education



eat

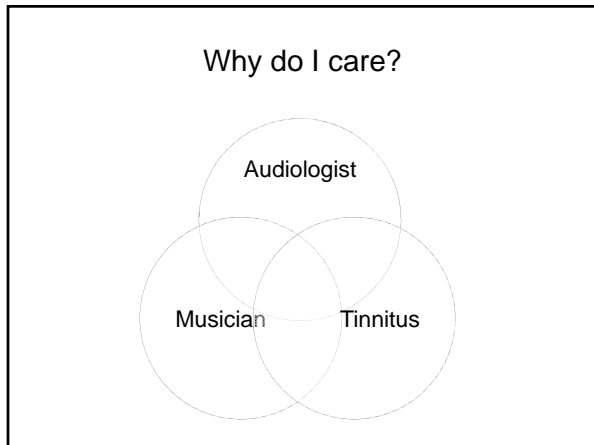


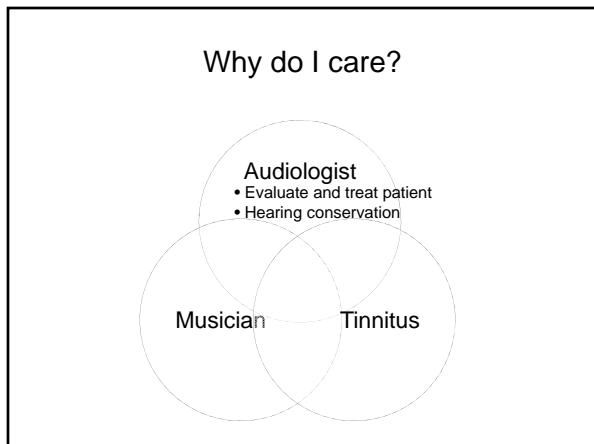
sleep

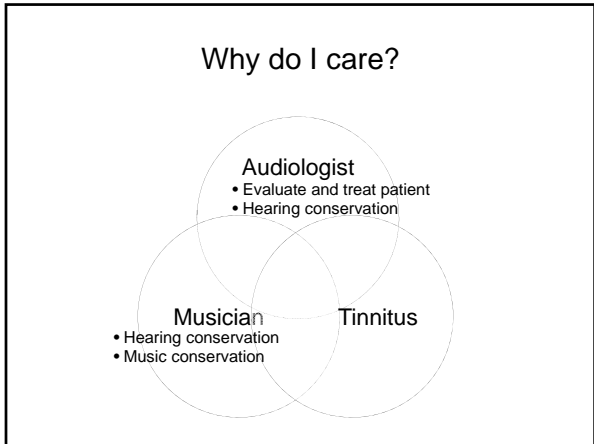


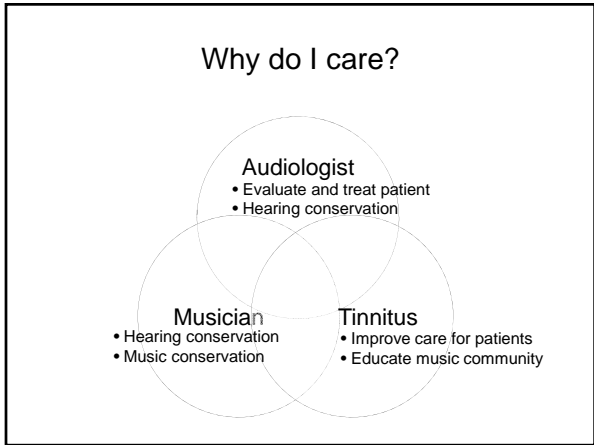
banjo











Case study

14 year old male presents with tinnitus

- temporary tinnitus after noise exposure for past 1 year
- now constant high pitch 'ring' and 'hiss'
- exacerbated by rock band practices and shows
- interferes with regular sleep schedule
- concerned he is loosing his hearing completely

Case study

14 year old male presents with tinnitus

First Audiology visit:

- Hearing "within normal limits"
- Musician's Earplugs recommended
- Impressions taken and plugs mailed home
- return if issues with plugs

Case study

Discussion points:

1. No measurement of patient distress
2. "Within normal limit" hearing is NOT a sufficient answer for a young aspiring musician

Case study

Discussion points:

1. No measurement of patient distress
2. "Within normal limit" hearing is NOT a sufficient answer for a young aspiring musician



Case study

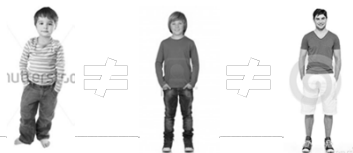
Discussion points:

- 1. No measurement of patient distress
- 2. "Within normal limit" hearing is NOT a sufficient answer for a young aspiring musician
- 3. Hearing conservation does not START with ear plugs, especially for musicians
- 4. No fitting verification or instructions for attenuation use (plugs mailed home)

Case study

A young-adult/child:

- is not a small adult
- understands what you are saying to their parents
- wants to be involved in the decision making process



Photos from www.dreamstime.com and www.s

Tinnitus

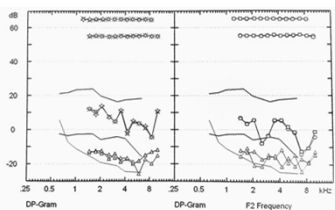
A perceived sound (ringing, buzzing, hissing, etc) that cannot be attributed to an external stimuli

- Phantom auditory perception (Jastreboff, 1990)
- Commonly perceived in sustained quiet
 - 94% (Heller and Bergman, 1953)
 - 64% (Tucker et al, 2005)
- 10-25% report clinical significant tinnitus (dependent on age, location, and clinical definition)
- Noise exposure is the most common cause

Presentations of Tinnitus

- **Transient "spontaneous" tinnitus (TST)**
- **Temporary & TTS (Temporary Threshold Shift)**
- **Chronic**
 - High pitched ringing (tonal)
 - Hissing (noise)
 - Buzzing (multi-tonal)
- **Medically significant**
 - Unilateral, pulsatile, low pitched, correlated symptoms

My Tinnitus



Download my tinnitus! <http://tinyurl.com/FW-My-Tinnitus>

Audio clip copyright Frank Wartz

Tinnitus Effects

- Emotional distress** – tinnitus perceived as threat to health, career, quality of life, etc (Hallam et al, 1988)
- Cognition** – reduced capacity for voluntary, conscious, effortful, and strategic control (Rossiter et al, 2006)
- Attention** – impaired selective and divided attention (Stevens et al, 2007; Eronlein et al, 2007)
- Sleep disturbances** – direct response to perception of tinnitus or unrelated stress-induced insomnia (Ramkumar and Rangasayee, 2010)

Neurophysiologic origins

- Jastreboff, Hazell and Graham (1994) described a neurophysiologic model of tinnitus pathogenesis involving reorganization of central auditory pathways and changes to sensory-modulated parts of the limbic system
- Peripheral hearing loss causes reorganization of cortical tonotopic map (overrepresentation of edge frequencies) (Rajan and Irvine, 1998)
- Muhlau (2006) demonstrated structural brain changes on MRI in patients with tinnitus
 - Gray-matter decrease in subcallosal area
 - Gray-matter increase in the auditory thalamus
- Roberts, et al (2010). *Ringin Ears: The Neuroscience of Tinnitus*. J. Neurosci. 30(45)

HYPERACOUSIS

Discomfort when exposed to a sound that would not evoke a similar reaction in an average listener. Physical characteristics of the sound are the only modulating factor.

MISOPHONIA

A "hatred of sound" modulated by the patient's previous experience and the presentation context.

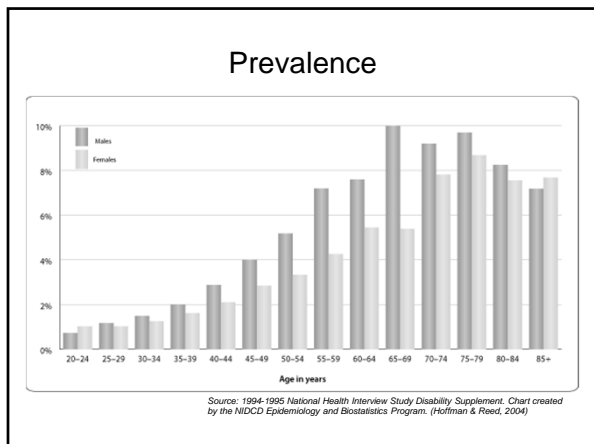
- Commonly concurrent with tinnitus
- Exacerbation of tinnitus is a common reason for avoidance of loud noises or specific sounds
- May limit a musician's enjoyment of certain musical situations

Jastreboff, M., Jastreboff, P.J. (2002). Decreased sound tolerance and Tinnitus Retraining Therapy (TRT). *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Audiology*, 24(2): 74-84

AURAL DISTORTIONS

Artifact, distortion of intensity growth, or 'frequency splatter'. Usually heard with high inputs and often unilateral.

- Commonly reported concern by musicians, particularly mixing engineers
- Motivation for softer music situations (quieter mixing levels or switching to an acoustic setup)



Tinnitus in Children

97%	3rd graders self-reported hazardous sound exposure (n=273) (Blair et al, 1996)
60%–85%	young people report tinnitus after loud music exposure without other audiologic complaints (Gilles 2012)
79%	children with tinnitus reported sleep difficulties (Kentish et al, 2000)
17.1%	13 – 19 year olds have noise sensitivity (Widen & Eriandsson 2004)
16.7%	12 – 18 year olds with noise-induced threshold shift (Henderson et al 2011)
16%	12 – 18 year olds listen to music players at levels >NIOSH (Marin et al 2008)
8.7%	13 – 19 year olds have permanent tinnitus (Widen & Eriandsson 2004)

- ### Tinnitus in Children
- 6% – 55% of normal hearing children and 25% – 66% of hearing impaired children have tinnitus, depending on study (Nodar and Lezak, 1984; Graham and Butler, 1984; Stouffer et al, 1992; Baguley and McFerran, 1999)
 - Common concern for parents and children is that tinnitus perception is a sign of hearing loss, worsening of established hearing loss, sign of mental health or catastrophic health problem (Sketye and Kennedy, 2009)
 - Children complain less and are more tolerant of ailments
 - Neural plasticity and natural coping methods may cancel out limited cognitive habituation ability



Assessment of Tinnitus

IMPAIRMENT - dysfunction of auditory system

- Audiological testing (thresholds, loudness discomfort, etc)
- Psychoacoustic measures (pitch, loudness, masking, etc)

DISABILITY - reduced abilities (activity limitation) on an individual to function in normal manner as a consequence of the tinnitus impairment

- Iowa Tinnitus Questionnaire
- Beck Depression Inventory
- Beck Youth Inventory

HANDICAP - psychosocial manifestations of impairment and disability that result in the need for extra effort and reduced independence

- THI, TRQ, TFI

Assessment of Tinnitus

Interview

Time and nature of onset	Noise history
Progression of severity	Medications
Aural description	Familial history
Lateralization	Effect on sleep
Perceived cause	Effect on hearing
Emotional impact	Effect on concentration
Exacerbating factors	Effect on relationships
Relieving factors	

Adapted from AAA Audiologic Guidelines for the Diagnosis & Management of Tinnitus Patients (2000)

Assessment of Tinnitus

Interview

- Different wording for youth
 - » Do you ever hear noises or sounds in your ears?
 - » What do you call them?
 - » What makes them go away, or get better?
 - » What do you do when you hear them?
 - » How do the sounds make you feel?
- Draw me a picture of your tinnitus
- Identify parental worries as well as patient worries
 - » How is tinnitus affecting life at home and at school

Clinical evaluation of tinnitus

Audiologic Evaluation

- Comprehensive audio
 - Thresholds, Speech discrim., MCL, LDL, QuickSIN
- Otoacoustic Emissions
 - Transient Evoked and Distortion Product (at least to 8k Hz)
- Psychoacoustic measures
 - Pitch matching
 - Loudness matching
 - Minimum masking level
 - Residual inhibition

Clinical evaluation of tinnitus

TRQ - Tinnitus Reaction Questionnaire

– Wilson et al, 1991

Screening instrument that distinguish tinnitus sufferers who cope with the problem from those who do not cope well, and as a measure of psychological distress before and after treatment.

- » 25 items in one total score (no subcategories)
- » responses on 5 point scale

Tinnitus Reaction Questionnaire (TRQ) **For Patient**

Name: _____ Date Completed: _____

This questionnaire is designed to find out what sort of effects tinnitus has had on your health, general well-being, etc. Some of the effects listed may apply to you, some may not. Please answer **all** questions by circling the number that best affects how your tinnitus has affected you over the past month.

	Yes	Seldom of the time	Sometimes of the time	A great deal of the time
1. My tinnitus has made me feel unhappy.	0	1	2	3
2. My tinnitus has made me feel tense.	0	1	2	3
3. My tinnitus has made me feel irritable.	0	1	2	3
4. My tinnitus has made me feel angry.	0	1	2	3
5. My tinnitus has led me to want special situations.	0	1	2	3
6. My tinnitus has made me feel nervous.	0	1	2	3
7. My tinnitus has made me feel depressed.	0	1	2	3
8. My tinnitus has made me feel annoyed.	0	1	2	3
9. My tinnitus has made me feel frustrated.	0	1	2	3
10. My tinnitus has interfered with my enjoyment of life.	0	1	2	3
11. My tinnitus has made it hard for me to concentrate.	0	1	2	3
12. My tinnitus has made it hard for me to relax.	0	1	2	3
13. My tinnitus has made me feel dissatisfied.	0	1	2	3
14. My tinnitus has made me feel hopeless.	0	1	2	3
15. My tinnitus has made me feel dissatisfied with things.	0	1	2	3
16. My tinnitus has led me to think about suicide.	0	1	2	3
17. My tinnitus has led me to want special situations.	0	1	2	3
18. My tinnitus has made me feel nervous.	0	1	2	3
19. My tinnitus has made me feel depressed.	0	1	2	3
20. My tinnitus has made me feel annoyed.	0	1	2	3
21. My tinnitus has made me feel frustrated.	0	1	2	3
22. My tinnitus has made me feel dissatisfied.	0	1	2	3
23. My tinnitus has made me feel hopeless.	0	1	2	3
24. My tinnitus has made me feel nervous.	0	1	2	3
25. My tinnitus has made me feel depressed.	0	1	2	3
26. My tinnitus has made me feel annoyed.	0	1	2	3
27. My tinnitus has made me feel frustrated.	0	1	2	3
28. My tinnitus has made me feel dissatisfied.	0	1	2	3
29. My tinnitus has made me feel hopeless.	0	1	2	3

Page 1 of 1 DocId:50179 Rev 5 Wilson et al. 1991

unhappy.

feel tense.

feel irritable.

feel angry.

cry.

interfered with my ability to work.

led me to think about suicide.

Clinical evaluation of tinnitus

Questionnaires with Youth

- Discussion of Suicide
 - TRQ specifically addresses
 - Appropriate referrals must be ready
 - Legal implications of answer from a minor
 - Parental access to medical records
 - HIPAA Privacy Rule www.hhs.gov/hipaafaq/personal/index.html
 - Negative ideation / power of suggestion

Clinical evaluation of tinnitus

THI – Tinnitus Handicap Inventory

- Newman, Jacobson & Spitzer, 1996

Self-report tinnitus handicap measure that can be used in a busy clinical practice to quantify the impact of tinnitus on daily living.

» 25 items in 3 subcategories: functional, emotional, and catastrophic

» Response in three levels
yes = 4 sometimes = 2 no = 0

FUNCTIONAL INDEX

Please read each question below carefully. To answer a question, select **ONE** of the numbers that is listed for that question, and draw a **CIRCLE** around it like this: (10%) or (1).

A. Over the PAST WEEK, how much has your tinnitus interfered with...

13. Your ability to **HEAR CLEARLY**? 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

14. Your ability to **UNDERSTAND PEOPLE** who are talking? 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

15. Your ability to **FOLLOW CONVERSATIONS** in a group or at meetings? 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

X. Over the PAST WEEK, how much has your tinnitus interfered with...

16. Your **QUIET RESTING ACTIVITIES**? 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

17. Your ability to **RELAX**? 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

18. Your ability to enjoy **"PEACE AND QUIET"**? 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Q. Over the PAST WEEK, how much has your tinnitus interfered with your **ENJOYMENT OF LIFE**?

19. Your enjoyment of **SOCIAL** activities? 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

20. Your **ENJOYMENT OF LIFE** at home, at work, or in your leisure time? 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

21. Your **RELATIONSHIPS** with family, friends, and other people? 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

22. How often did your tinnitus cause you to have difficulty performing your **WORK OR OTHER TASKS**, such as home maintenance, school work, or caring for children or others? Never had difficulty 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Always had difficulty

J. Over the PAST WEEK...

23. How **ANXIOUS** or **WORRIED** has your tinnitus made you feel? Not at all anxious or worried 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Extremely anxious or worried

24. How **BOTHERED** or **UPSET** have you been because of your tinnitus? Not at all bothered or upset 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Extremely bothered or upset

25. How **DEPRESSED** were you because of your tinnitus? Not at all depressed 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Extremely depressed

To answer a question, select ONE of the numbers that is listed for that question, and draw a CIRCLE around it like this: (10%) or (1).

tinnitus cause you to have difficulty performing your **WORK**, **OR OTHER TASKS**, such as home maintenance, school work, or caring for children or others?

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Clinical evaluation of tinnitus

Survey	Responses	Subscales	Scoring
TRQ	0 - 4 scale	0	Total score 0 – 104 > 17 = Significant 60 = 90 th percentile 72 = 95 th percentile
THI	3 tiers	3	Total score 0 - 100 0 - 16 = no handicap 18 - 36 = mild handicap 38 - 56 = moderate handicap 58 - 100 = severe handicap
TFI	0 – 10 scale (variable)	8	Total score 0 - 100 < 25 = mild tinnitus 25 - 50 = significant problems > 50 = severe

Clinical evaluation of tinnitus

Using questionnaires with Youth

- No child/youth specific questionnaire developed
- Normative data may not translate to children
 - Not valid for pre-treatment/post-treatment outcomes?
- Test-taking mentality
 - Not a quiz
 - Won't be graded
 - No right or wrong answers

Clinical evaluation of tinnitus

Youth Attitude Toward Noise Scale (YANS)

- Gilles et al, 2012
 - influence of permanent/transient tinnitus after loud music
 - attitudes toward noise
 - influence of peers
 - ability to manipulate hearing protection (HP)

Gilles, et al. (2012). *Prevalence of leisure noise-induced tinnitus and the attitude toward noise in university students*. *Otology & Neurotology*. 33:899-906

Clinical evaluation of tinnitus

Questionnaires with Youth

- "Negative Affect"
 - influence the results on all self-report measures (Watson & Pennebaker, 1989)
 - Pure measures of negative affect (Beck Youth Inventory) may help explain the patient's self-reported tinnitus distress score. (Baguley, 2003)
- Allure of disaster
 - Longing for tragedy or excitement (heroicism, risk taking)
- Teenager "-tude"
 - 'I'm bored' - 'school sucks, life sucks' - 'whatever'

Conclusions

- TFI - most kid appropriate, but most complicated form
 - consider going 'off form' and verbally asking questions
 - If using questionnaires with catastrophic (suicide, depression, despair) questions, be ready with referrals and legal action plan
- Not treating an adult, treating patient and family
- Hearing conservation for musicians
 - Starts with education, not ear plugs
 - Meet them half way and respect the culture
- Music conservation for Audiologists
 - Save the musician and save the music

Thank You!

Time for questions?

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