

Occurance of Hearing Loss by Veterans: An Editorial Note

Choudhary P

ABSTRACT

The specific noise level that can cause noise-induced hearing loss generally depends on duration of the exposure, the type of noise, and the frequency content of the noise, as well as the susceptibility of the exposed individual. It is very crucial that hearing conservation among military personnel and veterans should be taken into consideration. This paper has highlighted the rationale for the development of Hearing Loss Prevention Program.

Keywords: Tinnitus; Audiology; Hearing Disorders Veterans

¹Department of audiology and speech Therapy University of medical Sciences India

*Send correspondence to:
Choudary P

Department of audiology and speech Therapy University of medical Sciences India. E-mail: choudary@med.edu.in Phone: +1890126128
Paper submitted on June 25, 2021; and Accepted on July 28, 2021

Editorial Note

Hearing loss is a hidden impairment which doesn't come into picture until it effects our daily life. There are various causes that leads to hearing loss. One of the common cause can be due to aging or hereditary factor. It can be triggered by sudden exposure to loud noise, viral infections, effects of toxins or by injury. In general, veterans face many health related issues, once they return from work especially those who have served extensively in combat zones. Among them, the common and serious condition is hearing loss. Currently, ranking among the most prevalent health issues for the recent and former army members. The most important concern to the Congress of Veterans Administration is sudden noise exposure among military population that resulted in a contract with the Institute of Medicine National Academies with an aim to conduct a review on noise exposure in the military from the existing data comprising from World War II to the present. The report investigated the extent to which hearing impairment could be effected among the armed forces employees, it also assessed the different sources of hazardous noise during military service, and estimated the levels of noise exposure leading to hearing loss.

The report highlighted the concerns of Congress as a concluding statement that exposure to any kind of hazardous noise in the military should be considered as a serious health threatening condition.

According to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, more than 933,000 veterans have been provided with necessary compensation for hearing loss and more than 1.3 million veterans are receiving disability benefits for tinnitus. Apart from hearing loss and tinnitus, Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) is a rising health condition that affects a huge number of veterans who were exposed to sudden noise exposure. APD is a condition the has an impact on the brain's ability to comprehend speech despite the individual being able to process the sounds normally.

Other than injuries to the ear or brain which may cause physical damage, an improper communication with a listener may be one of the most triggering reasons of hearing loss.