Questions refer to Wiley et al, “Changes in Hearing Thresholds over 10 Years in Older Adults,” pp. 281–292.

**Learner Outcomes**

Each reader of this article should be able to

- Name three of the largest contemporary studies of hearing loss progression in the elderly.
- Contrast the rate of changes in both low and high frequency hearing observed between younger and older adults who participated in the Epidemiology of Hearing Loss Study.
- Summarize changes in the degree of hearing loss expected for older adults.

1. Which of the following is NOT an ongoing study associated with hearing and aging:
   a. Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging
   b. Fulton Epidemiology Study
   c. Epidemiology of Hearing Loss Study
   d. Framingham Heart Study

2. The number of participants in the present 10-year follow up study for hearing loss was:
   a. 801
   b. 2395
   c. 3407
   d. 4926

3. Measurements reported in this study included:
   a. changes in otoacoustic emissions with age
   b. changes in tympanograms with age
   c. behavioral thresholds for tones
   d. all of the above

4. Comparisons of hearing thresholds for men and women indicated:
   a. greater absolute thresholds for women compared with men
   b. greater absolute thresholds for men compared with women
   c. no differences in absolute thresholds for men and women
   d. gender effects were not reported in the Wiley et al study

5. Changes in hearing thresholds over 10 years in older adults:
   a. were similar for women and men at frequencies of 500–2000 Hz
   b. were greatest for the highest frequencies
   c. were considerably greater for women at lower frequencies
   d. did not differ across women and men at higher frequencies

6. The analysis of changes in hearing thresholds over 10 years indicated:
   a. slower rates of change for younger participants
   b. slower rates of change for older participants
   c. greater absolute thresholds for women compared with men
   d. no differences in threshold changes across age groups

7. For men and women 80 years and older, the rate of change of hearing loss at 8 kHz was:
   a. 0.6 dB/year
   b. 1.0 dB/year
   c. 1.6 dB/year
   d. 6.0 dB/year

8. Measures of the rate of change in hearing thresholds over 10 years indicated that:
   a. for younger age groups the rate of change was greatest for lower frequencies
   b. for older age groups the rate of change was greatest for higher frequencies
   c. for younger age groups the rate of change was greatest for higher frequencies
   d. no differences were observed in the rate of threshold change across age groups

9. Which of the following was not a good baseline predictor of 10-year thresholds for higher frequencies:
   a. age
   b. gender
   c. baseline thresholds for higher frequencies
   d. baseline thresholds for lower frequencies

10. In discussing the implications of their findings, the authors suggested that:
    a. hearing screening is warranted for older adults
    b. the hearing loss in older age groups only affects non-speech frequencies
    c. the rate of change in thresholds for older adults is very slow and generally does not affect speech understanding
    d. the number of older people needing audiologic services will not increase substantially in the near future
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