

AAA CEU Program

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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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