

# "Aural (Re)habilitation: The predictor of Hearing Health"

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# The Goals of Aural Rehabilitation (AR)

- To overcome communication problems
- To improve quality of life

**By Using Any Means Possible IF**

**ENT Professionals promote AR**

# Predictors of Hearing Outcomes

1) Aided speech perception was best predicted by

degree of hearing loss, cognitive performance / age

2) Hearing aid use was best predicted by previous

hearing aid use

3) Hearing aid satisfaction was best predicted by aided

sound quality measures Humes, et al.

**Front End**

**Hearing Health Delivery  
(Treatment Intervention)**

**Back End**

**Hearing Health Delivery  
(Follow-Through - AR)**

**AFTER CARE**



# The Barriers to Providing Aural Rehabilitation (AR)

Lack of ...

- Skilled 'COUNSELORS'
- TIME
- FINANCIAL INCENTIVE (Not Billable)

# ISSUES IN AR

**Efficacy of AR: there is a 20% + higher h/a outcome satisfaction following 30 minute AR (Marke Trak)**



**Similar Patterns of User Satisfaction found in Nigeria compared to Europe (Bolajoko Olusanya )**



**Those in AR remember less than half of instruction (decreases with age) (Kochkin),**



**Printed Visual Language Materials and use of recordings of speech in markets are most effective**

# ISSUES IN AR cont

Experienced hearing aid users (w/ sign language skills) make superior counselors / trainers



Research in brain plasticity / auditory process and neural stimulation of speech regions provide evidence for the value of aural / oral stimulation / auditory-verbal approach



Practice is more effective than demonstration and especially when family members are involved



Ear and Hearing Health Care professionals are key in promoting and developing AR services

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