Europe. Forty million individuals (more than 10% of the population) have hearing loss, with 10% of newborns suffering from congenital deafness. This conference is sponsored by EuroHear - Bringing the Genetics of Deafness to Light, a multidisciplinary project comprised of 25 research teams throughout Europe. Launched in 2004, this five-year initiative of the European Commission seeks to provide fundamental knowledge about the function of the inner ear - i.e., how sound waves in the inner ear are transformed into electrical signals and sent to the brain - and to identify molecular and cellular mechanisms that contribute to the development of better diagnostic and therapeutic tools for the genetic factors causing hearing loss and open new avenues for future therapies.

April 25 is “International Noise Awareness Day” - “It is time to address the threat that noise poses to hearing, learning and behavior,” says Amy Boyle, Director of Educational Audiology at the Children’s Hearing Institute. “It is important to educate the public about the necessity of creating a quiet home, school and recreational environment. Continuous exposure to noise above 85 decibels can be harmful to hearing and research shows that noise does not have to be that loud to lead to stress-related disorders, including physiological changes in blood pressure, sleep, and digestion. Noise can also negatively affect children’s learning and development. The total financial cost, estimated at 100 billion Euros - including special education, speech therapy, hearing aids, and physicians and specialists’ fees - than the combined economic cost of epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, spinal injury, stroke and Parkinson’s disease.”

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Hearing Loss and the Importance of Knowing What the Doctor Is Talking About

The January New York Times Magazine edition of "How to Know What the Doctor Is Talking About" provides valuable insights into how patients can better understand their medical information. This excerpt highlights the importance of recognizing hearing loss as a prevalent condition and the need for clear communication between healthcare providers and patients.

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**Flora McKenzie Memorial Fund**

**Kudos to “Hearing-Heo” Award**

James Youngelson

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Diedrich Kretschmar, MD, provides important information on the safety of smoke alarms in homes and other buildings. The text emphasizes the importance of smoke alarms for individuals with hearing impairments, highlighting the need for clear communication in emergency situations.

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**Fire Safety for the Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

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**Hearing Loss and the Importance of Knowing What the Doctor Is Talking About**

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**Personal Cochlear Implant Stories on TV**

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**Hearing Aid Program Receives Donation**

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**Hearing Loss is the third most prevalent chronic condi-**

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**The Spring 2005 edition of Echoes featured the book by Beth**

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**Florence McKenzie Memorial Fund Created by CHI Board Member**

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**The Importance of Knowing What the Doctor Is Talking About**

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**LocoCare.net provides important information on the safety of smoke alarms in homes and other buildings.**

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**Echoes Feb 2007.**

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Hearing Loss and the Importance of Knowing What the Doctor is Talking About

The January New York Times Bestseller "Hearing Loss and the Importance of Knowing What the Doctor is Talking About" provides an in-depth look at the hearing loss epidemic, including the latest medical advancements and support services. The book details how hearing loss can affect quality of life, friendships, and relationships, and offers strategies for living with hearing loss.

Personal Cochlear Implantation Stories on HBO

PhD Pilot Features Beth Israel Cochlear Implant Recipient

William C. McCahill Jr., co-founder of Echoes and featured in the book "The Beth Israel Cochlear Implant Recipient" by Michael Chodl, PhD, "Hearing: How Can I Best Be Made More Human?" Michael and his mother Susan Chodl (of the Summer Speech Society) were featured January 17 on Public Television's 22nd Century, a one-hour pilot to potentially turn into a new series, for the feat of a new deaf child's cochlear implant.

Dr. Parisier also offers these tips for helping patients maximize their medication adherence:

- Provide a written explanation of prescription guidelines and instructions.
- Ask a family member about his/her hearing. The patient may not be hearing you or be doing a procedure while speaking, your patient may not be hearing you.
- Have a written medical plan.
- Request information in writing, especially if you need to follow up with the patient.
- Two ears are better than one. Bring a family member or friend with you.
- Safety Tips

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- Request a repeat of information if you do not understand. Ask a family member present to initiate dialogue.
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HBO Documentary Highlights Journey from Silence to Sound

icularly, "Hearing Now" will be the audience trophy for best documentary at Sundance Film Festival. In the film,"Hearing Now," filmmaker Andrew Buckidy documents the extraordinary tragedy by her deaf parents Sally Taylor and young deaf son.

Safety Tips

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Hearing Loss and the Importance of Knowing What the Doctor Is Talking About

The January New York Times Sunday Magazine section on the importance of knowing what the doctor is talking about states that 60% of people in the U.S. who could benefit from hearing aids do not use them because they are afraid of the associated cost, lack of knowledge, confusion over advertising or instructions. Often doctors fail to clearly explain medical information or instructions during office visits.

The following tips for physicians and other health care providers come from Parisier, co-director of The Beth Israel/New York Eye and Ear Infirmary's Personal Cochlear Implantation Stories and the18 minute film, “Hearing Heros.”

Personal Cochlear Implantation Stories on the Web
PBS Pilot Features Beth Israel Cochlear Implant Recipient

Parisier offers these tips for physicians and other health care providers who come into contact with patients:

■ Recommend a hearing assessment to all patients over the age of 65. Hearing loss is the most preventable chronic condition among older Americans, after hypertension and arthritis. It affects 20% of those over age 65 and 50% of those over age 80.

■ When speaking, always look the patient fully in the face. If the patient is looking away from you, do not assume they are not hearing you. Perhaps they are not hearing you, or they may be playing with stuffed animals, many toys are loud enough to cause permanent hearing loss.

■ Avoid making jokes about hearing loss. Instead, ask doctors to explain your medical condition in layman’s terms.

■ Ask doctors, nurses and health care professionals to speak slowly, clearly and loudly when you are facing or hearing impaired.

■ Provide written copies of medical information or instructions.

■ When speaking, always look the patient fully in the face. If the patient is looking away from you, do not assume they are not hearing you. Perhaps they are not hearing you, or they may be playing with stuffed animals, many toys are loud enough to cause permanent hearing loss.

■ Avoid making jokes about hearing loss. Instead, ask doctors to explain your medical condition in layman’s terms.

■ Have a hearing problem?
■ Why not try hearing or listening device, bring it with you.
■ Ask doctors, nurses and health care professionals to speak slowly, clearly and loudly when you are facing or hearing impaired.

Keep a communications device nearby. If you use a smoke alarm, ensure your family and friends to memorial (or by making gifts to CHI). My long-term commitment to The Children's Hearing Institute is very meaningful to me and my family, especially since I am deaf and have met many incredible people at CHI. My mother would have been proud to have this fund established in her name,” says Ms. McCahill. Mr. McCahill joined Apolo Real Estate Advisors in 2008. He has been involved in the campaigns of Lincoln Center’s Real Estate and Construction Office and Real Estate and Construction Division for two decades.

He is also Vice Chairman of the New York City Housing Partnership, The Urban Land Institute, Adjunct Professor at NYU School of Public Policy and a member of the New York City Housing Partnership Board.

Mr. McCahill serves on the Alpert Hearing Committee for Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Lincoln Center and Israel Bonds.

Mr. McCahill was born with combined hearing, speech and reading impairments. His parents, both graduates of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine's Department of Otolaryngology, were also born deaf.

With a history of a variety of conditions that affect communications, Mr. McCahill specializes in the use of technology to provide effective services for those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Mr. McCahill has served in the U.S. Navy in the Southwest Pacific during World War II. He is a World War II veteran and a volunteer firefighter in the volunteer fire department for 51 years. I am also a volunteer for the New York City Fire Department’s Fire Prevention Bureau and serve in the Bureau for 61 years with perfectionism.

I would like to nominate Mr. McCahill for his philanthropic endeavors by Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Lincoln Center and Israel Bonds.

On March 11, The Children’s Hearing Institute joined with the New York City Department of Education and the Graham Bell Association Ms. Toscano has brought high- energy information, presentations, role-playing, competitive games and professional simulations to the students.

Ms. Toscano’s resolve and determination in affecting change is inspiring. She has been nominated for a “Hearing Hero Award.” She already is a “Hearing Heros” laureate.

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Learn how to keep your hearing safe by making small changes in your life. Here are some simple steps:

1. Never put a cigarette between your lips and a wall.
2. Never smoke or smoke trap you in your room.
3. Never smoke or smoke trap you in your room.
4. Keep a communications device nearby. If you use a smoke alarm, ensure your family and friends to memorial (or by making gifts to CHI). My long-term commitment to The Children's Hearing Institute is very meaningful to me and my family, especially since I am deaf and have met many incredible people at CHI. My mother would have been proud to have this fund established in her name,” says Ms. McCahill. Mr. McCahill joined Apolo Real Estate Advisors in 2008. He has been involved in the campaigns of Lincoln Center’s Real Estate and Construction Office and Real Estate and Construction Division for two decades.

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April 25 is &ldquo;International Noise Awareness Day&rdquo;

&ldquo;It is time to address the threat that noise poses to hearing, learning and behavior,&rdquo; says Amy Boyle, Director of Public Education at the League for the Hard of Hearing. This year the League is once again spearheading an effort to educate the public about the necessity of creating a quiet home, school and recreational environment. Continuous exposure to noise above 85 decibels can be harmful to hearing and research shows that noise does not have to be that loud to lead to stress-related disorders, including physiological changes in blood pressure, sleep, and digestion. Noise can also negatively affect children’s health, learning and behavior,&rdquo; says Boyle.

Public Education at the League for the Hard of Hearing. 

On March 31, The Children’s Hearing Institute sponsored our Annual Family Fun Day for Children and Adults With Cochlear Implants. "Children and teens with hearing loss are not always able to articulate their needs and feelings. We’re gratified we can provide families with hearing loss, and especially the deaf, with a day of fun, games, presentations and refreshments that will help them address many of life’s challenges," says Jane Madell, PhD, CCC-A/SLP, Cert. AVT, Co-Director of The Beth Israel/New York Eye and Ear Cochlear Implant Center. "Children and teens with hearing loss are not always able to articulate their needs and feelings. We’re gratified we can provide families with support systems for dealing with their challenges."
April 25 is “International Noise Awareness Day,” the League will ask the public to observe the “Quiet Diet” – one minute of quiet, regardless of their location, from 2:15 PM to 2:16 PM. For further information visit www.lhh.org.

In his keynote address, Dr. Gershon will say:

“It is time to address the threat that noise poses to hearing, learning and behavior,” says Dr. Gershon. “It is time to address the threat that noise poses to hearing, learning and behavior.”

Among the activities planned during April 25 is “International Noise Awareness Day,” the League will ask the public to observe the “Quiet Diet” – one minute of quiet, regardless of their location, from 2:15 PM to 2:16 PM. For further information visit www.lhh.org.

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