

Free Hearing Screening Camp: Report

08.10.2022, ICCONS, Trivandrum.

An activity of ICCONS silver jubilee celebrations

Background

Nowadays hearing loss is very common in children and adults as a result of exposure to loud noise and listening to loud music for a long period of time. Hearing loss is a major problem in the elderly. Studies shows that hearing loss is more common in people with dementia, hypertension and diabetes. Statistics illustrates that about one in three people between the ages of 55 and 74-years are known to have hearing loss.

Camps are indispensable in the field of health services. Communication remains a major problem for those with hearing problems. Free hearing screening camps are very beneficial for people who are struggling financially and have hearing problem. It can also help raise awareness about hearing loss among a group of people and rehabilitate them by prescribing medications and/or hearing aids.

As part of ICCONS' Silver Jubilee celebration, Department of Audiology, ICCONS, Thiruvananthapuram organised a Free Hearing Screening Camp on 8th October 2022.

The following team members of ICCONS conducted the camp:

The camp was coordinated by Ms. Divya G, Lecturer Gr.I (Dept. of ASLP). Ms. Priyanka Panchapakesan, Lecturer Gr.I & Ms. Reji R, Lecturer Gr. II are the two other audiologists in the team. Apart from them Internship students of BASLP course also joined with the team. Clinical assessment was done by Ms.Anupa, Staff Nurse.

GSI 61 Diagnostic Audiometer and Nautilus portable Audiometer are arranged for Hearing Screening Test.

Camp Activities

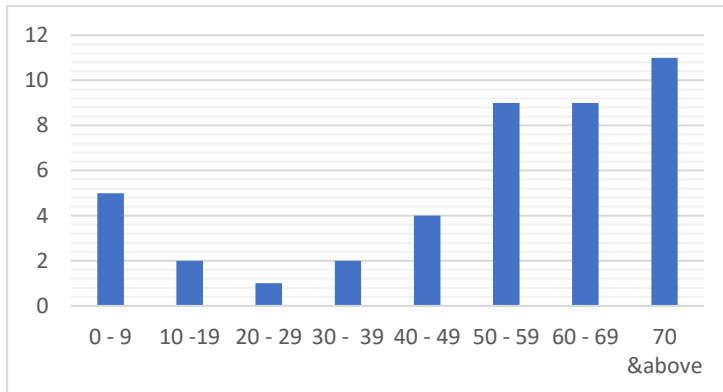
The Screening Camp started at 8:00 am. Marketing Executive from Keltron has done introduction on the use of hearing aids to the cases who had attended the hearing screening camp. Medical assessment was conducted by Ms.Anupa, Staff Nurse and those who requires neurological evaluations where informed that they will be contacted for the same. History of the cases and detailed evaluations are done before the screening test.



Results

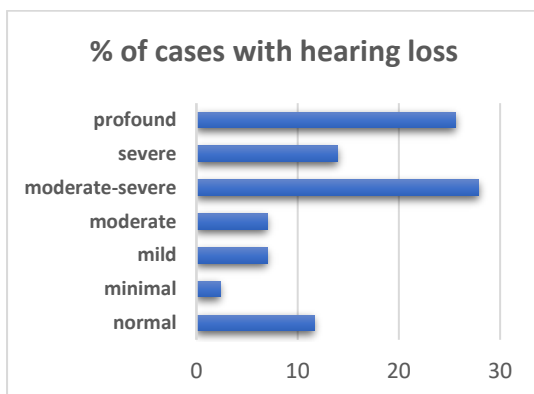
A total of 43 cases have reported in the hearing screening camp. There were 12 female cases and 31 male cases. Pediatric cases are less in number than expected.

Distribution of cases as per age group



There were only 5 cases, who are between the ages of 3 and 8 years. All these pediatric cases are coming under the medical diagnosis Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). 29 cases were aged over 50 years.

Distribution of cases as per hearing loss



Out of 43 cases, 26% of cases has profound hearing loss. 28% has moderate to severe hearing loss. 12% of cases fall in severe hearing loss. 14% of cases are normal, but they are paediatric cases with ASD.

Conclusion

In the detailed evaluation 90% of the cases requires audiological rehabilitation (hearing aids). Economically backward senior citizens were recommended to avail free hearing aids by the scheme Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana – a scheme for providing physical aids and assisted living devices to senior citizens through Panchayats.