



Chronic Diseases and Nursing Home Audiology

Course Description: This three-hour session focuses on exploring the physiological impacts of diabetes on hearing and balance, and how best to test and manage patients with this comorbidity. This session also addresses audiology in skilled nursing facilities.

Learning Outcomes

Participants will be able to:

1. Describe the pathophysiology of diabetes effects on hearing and balance
2. List the audiological testing, management and monitoring for diabetes
3. Explain the OBRA requirements as they pertain to Audiology in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs)
4. Identify the multiple process for obtaining hearing aids in SNFs

Agenda

8:30-10:00 Diabetes and Chronic Disease Issues in Audiology

10:00-10:20 Break

10:20-11:50 Audiology Services in Skilled Nursing Facilities

Speaker: Dr. Kathy Dowd, AuD received her undergraduate BA in French Education from Spalding University, MEd in Audiology from University of Louisville and AuD from Salus University. In the last few years Dr. Kathy Dowd has worked to raise the awareness of chronic disease and ototoxic medications and the comorbid impact on hearing loss and risk of falls. Her work on this emerging issue in Audiology has focused on diabetes educators, state agencies for chronic disease, hearing loss and fall prevention, as well as federal agencies such as Centers for Disease Control and Healthy People. Dr. Dowd is presently the executive director of The Audiology Project, a nonprofit organization working with national audiology professional organizations to define a medical management model of audiological care for diabetes and other chronic and infectious diseases.

Disclosure: No conflicts of interest