

COMMUNITY EAR AND HEARING HEALTH

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EDITORIAL

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Welcome to the second Issue of *Community Ear and Hearing Health*. Feedback has been very positive following the first Issue. The circulation has been increasing rapidly and we are printing 3,500 copies of the second Issue. The Journal is also accessible on www.icttheworldcare.com

WHO Training Resource on Primary Ear and Hearing Care

This present Issue focuses on various aspects of ear and hearing care and rehabilitation. Sally Harvest introduces the new WHO Training Resource on Primary Ear and Hearing Care at basic, intermediate and advanced levels. The Resource is intended to address the needs

in developing countries and especially where there is lack of ENT services or specialists. Primary Ear and Hearing Care is one of the pillars of Prevention of Hearing Impairment and can be provided by specially trained Primary Health Care cadres.

Ear Syringing

Removing ear wax and foreign bodies by syringing looks simple and straightforward, but complications like perforating the eardrum do happen occasionally. A O A Ogunleye reviews the literature, the methods, the instruments, the pitfalls and how to avoid complications. In the simplest and cheapest way ear syringing can be done with a disposable 20 ml syringe and a cut-off 14 G plastic intravenous cannula. It will be very difficult to exert so much pressure that the eardrum perforates unless it is atrophic. In busy clinics an



Otoscopy in Pursat, Cambodia

Photo: All Ears Cambodia

electrical ear syringe is very efficient and saves time, but the equipment is expensive.

Hearing Aid Fitting

Professor Russo describes a holistic approach to hearing aid fitting and aural rehabilitation for elders. Older people are the group that experience most difficulties in adapting to a hearing aid and many of the hearing aids end up unused in a drawer. The holistic approach will augment a satisfactory use of the hearing aid and communication, contrary to just dispensing the hearing aid, which is an unfortunate practice.

Audiology in Cambodia

In every Issue we will include a report from 'the field'. Glyn Vaughan illustrates the current situation, the needs and a new programme he started in Cambodia. Readers from other countries may recognise much of what he describes. All of us will learn from these reports and they will help to find solutions to our own particular needs in our own countries.

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