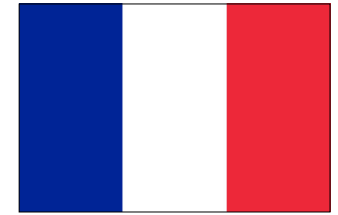


HEARING LOSS IN FRANCE



The majority of the French population is not aware of the existence of cochlear implants.

This puts France behind its European neighbours.



1 in 3 French individuals over the age of 74 are affected by some degree of hearing loss.

Only **30%** of French people with hearing loss had a hearing test during the last 5 years. With this, France is by far below the average, compared to the other nine EuroTrak countries.



France has the highest satisfaction with hearing aids, compared to the other European countries.

Almost **9 out of 10** working hearing aid users state their hearing device is useful for their job.

85% of French patients with severe to profound hearing loss have never been informed about cochlear implants.



The WHO recommends regular hearing screenings:

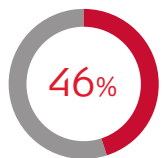
- 50+ years > every 5 years
- 65+ years > every 1-3 years

Evidence proves that hearing loss is linked to other health conditions:



- Dementia
- Depression
- Diabetes
- Falls
- Heart Disease
- Renal Failure
- Premature Death

However, **47%** of the French population with hearing loss don't believe in a correlation with other health issues.



46% of French people with hearing loss have a hearing device. The trend shows that the adoption rate is increasing over the past 13 years.

Among those French individuals with hearing loss without a hearing devices, **almost half** of Ear, Nose, Throat specialists did not recommend further action.



Policy Recommendations

- Raise awareness of the importance of hearing health, the impact of hearing loss and the benefits of hearing loss treatment among the public and healthcare professionals.
- Promote the need for national hearing health strategies including diagnosis, rehabilitation, service, and maintenance.
- Introduce national Newborn and Over-55 Hearing Screening Programmes.
- Acknowledge access to professional hearing care as a right.
- Promote access to effective treatments including hearing aids, bone conduction devices, and cochlear implants.
- Share best practices among EU Member States.