

# Pediatric Hearing Loss: Parent Psychosocial Challenges and Considerations for Screening Parents

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Parents' emotions and challenges can influence how they engage in intervention



## Families want support

- ▶ Parents report context specific stress (e.g. amplification device maintenance) in addition to general parenting stress

(Jackson et al., 2004; Quittner et al., 2010; Jean et al., 2018)

Providers can support  
parents in achieving  
effective intervention  
routines

Ask parents about  
their experiences  
&  
guide and support  
parents based on their  
needs



We explored factors that can impact parents...

- ▶ Psychological distress
- ▶ Quality of life
- ▶ Overall well-being
- ▶ Functional impairment

# 296 Parents of children who are D/HH Participated

Parent		Child	
Mothers	94%	Bilateral loss	78%
White	84%	Severe-profound	74%
College education	75%	Spoken language	87%
Income (>\$81K)	58%	Use hearing aids	43%
Average age	39 years	Have additional disabilities	32%
		Average age	7 years

Parents  
completed  
surveys to  
report their  
current  
experiences

- ▶ Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scale (DASS)
- ▶ 36-item Short Form Survey (SF-36)
- ▶ Mental Health Continuum Short Form (MHC)
- ▶ Work and Social Adjustment Scale (WSAS)

Approximately one-quarter to one-third of parents were experiencing challenges

	Normal	Mild-Severe	Significant-Moderately Severe	Moderate-Languishing
DASS (N=245)				
Depression	77% (188)	23% (55)		
Anxiety	80% (195)	20% (49)		
Stress	77% (185)	23% (56)		
WSAS (N=246)	70% (171)		30% (75)	
MHC-SF (N=254)	66% (167) (flourishing)			34% (87)

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SF-36 Scales	0-3 SDs Below mean	0-3 SDs Above mean
Physical functioning (n=230)	24% (55)	76% (175)
Role of physical functioning (n=232)	2% (57)	75% (175)
Role of emotional health (n=232)	36% (85)	64% (147)
Energy/ fatigue (n=230)	55% (125)	45% (105)
Emotional well-being (n=230)	43% (100)	57% (130)
Social functioning (n=228)	39% (88)	61% (140)
Pain (n=232)	48% (112)	52% (120)
General health (n=230)	38% (88)	62% (142)

*How much of the time during the past 4 weeks did you feel worn out?*



## We need more information about parents with

- ▶ Children who have mild-moderate or unilateral HL
- ▶ Diverse demographics
- ▶ Younger children



## What we do know, is that...

- ▶ Parents seeking services for their children who are DHH may be experiencing challenges
- ▶ These challenges can interfere with:
  - ▶ Quality of life
  - ▶ Daily tasks related to supporting their child's communication needs  
(e.g., Muñoz et al., 2015)

# Through person- and family centered care professionals can support parents by...



- ▶ Assessing life variables
- ▶ Identifying challenges
- ▶ Exploring solutions
- ▶ Joint planning

# Screening can help you identify parents who are struggling



- ▶ Talk about how it is impacting their work with you
- ▶ Offer mental health referrals when needed

**AUDIOLOGY CASE HISTORY FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

What would you like help with today? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What, if any, concerns are you having? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What have you done to address your concerns so far? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

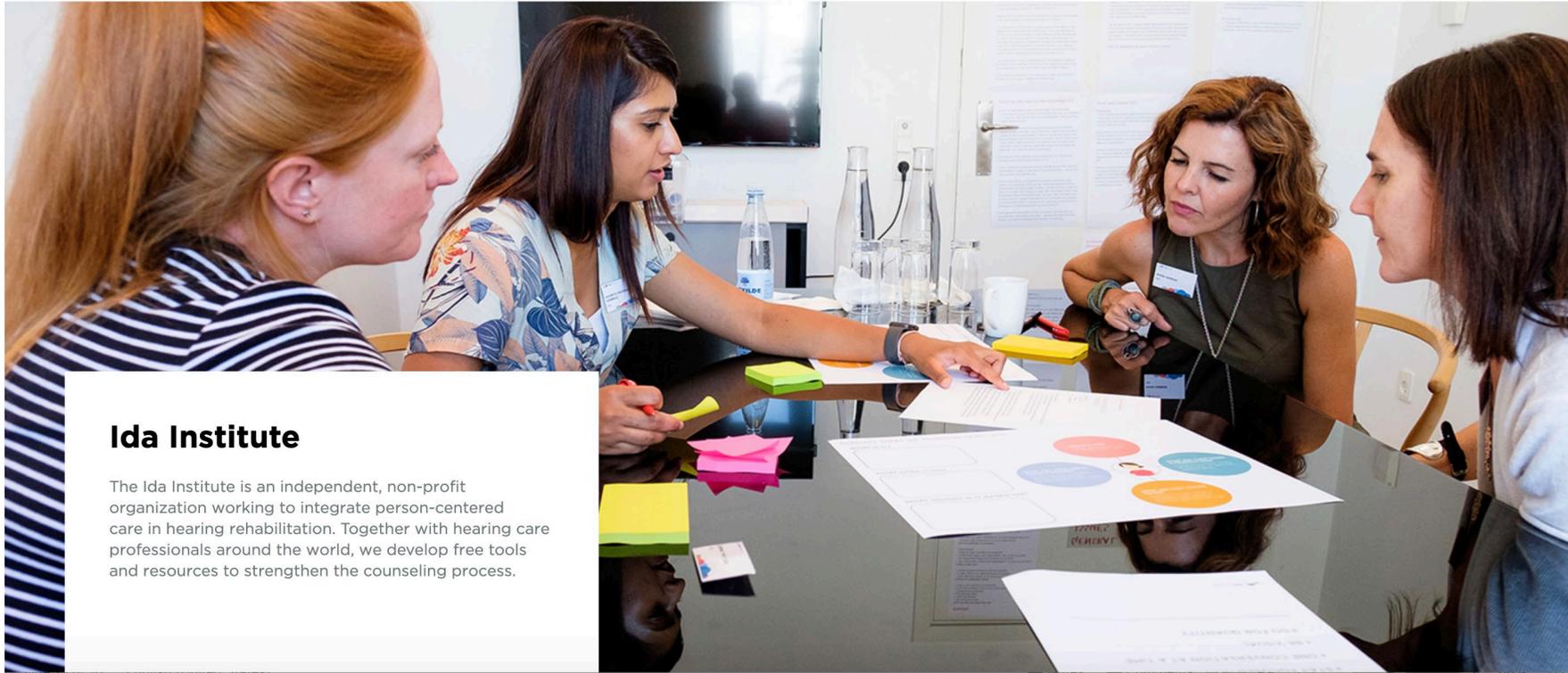
\_\_\_\_\_

How have your daily activities/work/family/friends been affected? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Hearing Health History

Add  
check-in  
questions  
on intake  
forms



## Ida Institute

The Ida Institute is an independent, non-profit organization working to integrate person-centered care in hearing rehabilitation. Together with hearing care professionals around the world, we develop free tools and resources to strengthen the counseling process.

Ida Institute has resources  
<https://idainstitute.com/>



Questions