

MISSION

The Defense Health Agency supports our Nation by improving health and building readiness - making extraordinary experiences ordinary and exceptional outcomes routine.

The Hearing Center of Excellence (HCE) advocates for hearing and balance health priorities through collaborative leadership and close coordination with programs, leaders, and subject matter experts throughout the Department of Defense (DOD), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), institutions of higher education, and other global and private entities working to improve hearing and balance health outcomes.

Goals:



- **Standardize Clinical Care.** Optimize clinical business processes; develop, improve awareness, and ensure implementation of clinical best practices; train the next generation of clinical providers and researchers.



- **Improve Hearing Health Prevention and Surveillance Strategies.** Develop, disseminate, and monitor innovative solutions and their results for providers, occupational health professionals, service members, and civilians.



- **Develop and Promote Actionable Data.** Improve clinical workflow and documentation, increase productivity, refine and standardize data to enhance research capabilities.

HCE History:

HCE was legislated by Congress in the 2009 National Defense Authorization Act and was officially established in December 2010.

The center focuses on the prevention, diagnosis, mitigation, treatment, and rehabilitation of hearing loss and auditory system injuries in military personnel.

Questions?

For more information about HCE, visit: <https://hearing.health.mil>

For questions, visit: <https://hearing.health.mil/hcehome/Contact-Us>



STANDARDIZE CLINICAL CARE



- Clinical Practice Guidance — developed and disseminated across clinical communities to raise awareness and standardize clinical best practices.

<https://hearing.health.mil/For-Providers/Standards-and-Clinical-Practice-Guidelines>



- Collaborative Auditory/Vestibular Research Network — coordinates, leverages, and expedites auditory and vestibular research undertaken by the DOD and VA.

<https://hearing.health.mil/Research/HCE-Collaborative-Research-Network>



- Military Vestibular Assessment and Rehabilitation course — provides inter-disciplinary education and training on vestibular management. This course helps to standardize care, enhance readiness and provider capabilities, reduce costs, and improve outcomes in the Military Health Systems (MHS).

<https://hearing.health.mil/For-Providers/MVAR-Training-Videos>

IMPROVE HEARING HEALTH PREVENTION AND SURVEILLANCE STRATEGIES



- Hearing Health Reviews — summarizes hearing loss data for DOD military and civilian personnel who have been exposed to occupational and operational noise.

<https://hearing.health.mil/Resources/News-and-Events/Hearing-Health-Review>



- Hearing Protection Selection Toolkit Resource — formerly known as the Hearing Protection Device Evaluated Products List, this is a set of decision-making tools for audiologists, hearing conservation program managers, industrial hygienists/bio-environmental engineers, and safety managers to recommend hearing protection options appropriate to different noise environments and user needs.

<https://hearing.health.mil/Prevention/Evaluated-Hearing-Protection-Devices>



- Comprehensive Hearing Health Program — develops and disseminates knowledge products to prevent and surveil hearing loss through education, protection, and monitoring. Program deployment is supported by the services to increase their members' awareness of hearing loss, prevention strategies, and healthy hearing behavior.

<https://hearing.health.mil/Prevention/Comprehensive-Hearing-Health-Program-CHHP>

DEVELOP AND PROMOTE ACTIONABLE DATA



- Enterprise Clinical Audiology Application — supports standardized electronic capture of data from all MHS clinical audiologic evaluations for automated transfer to MHS GENESIS and the Joint Hearing Loss and Auditory System Injury Registry (JHASIR).

<https://hearing.health.mil/Information-Management/ECAA>



- Coding guidance — ensures that providers use accurate codes for hearing and balance diagnoses and related procedures.

<https://hearing.health.mil/For-Providers/Diagnostic-and-Coding-Guidance>



- JHASIR — supports epidemiological study to guide prevention, treatment, and surveillance of hearing and balance injuries. Researchers can use the JHASIR to observe injury and treatment trends, and identify factors important to long-term health outcomes.

<https://hearing.health.mil/Information-Management/JHASIR>

