

# Hearing loss

## Return-on-investment study

Global return on investment and cost-effectiveness of WHO's HEAR interventions for hearing loss: a modelling study (2022)

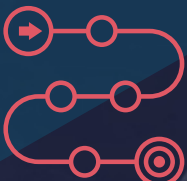


World Health Organization



Objective

To assess the investment required to scale up key evidence-based ear and hearing care interventions (HEAR), and the return to society for every US\$1 invested in these interventions.



Methods

We conducted a modelling study using the proposed HEAR interventions. Analysis was from 2020-2030 using three scenarios: business-as-usual, 50% scale-up (progress) and 90% scale-up (ambitious). A transition model with three states was developed to model the national populations in countries. For the return-on-investment analysis, the monetary value of DALYs averted and productivity gains were compared against investment in each scenario.



Key Messages

- US\$238.8 billion over 10 years is required to scale up interventions to 90%.
- This investment promises substantial health gains with more than 130 million DALYs averted and US\$1.3 trillion saved with productivity benefits of more than US\$2 trillion at the global level by 2030.
- These benefits correspond to a return-on-investment of nearly US\$15 for every US\$1 invested.



## Research impact

### Publication

“Global return on investment and cost-effectiveness of WHO's HEAR interventions for hearing loss: a modelling study” was published in **The Lancet Global Health**.

### WHO World Report on Hearing (2021)

This return-on-investment research was used in the WHO World Report on Hearing to promote investment in HEAR interventions and their inclusion as part of universal health coverage.

