

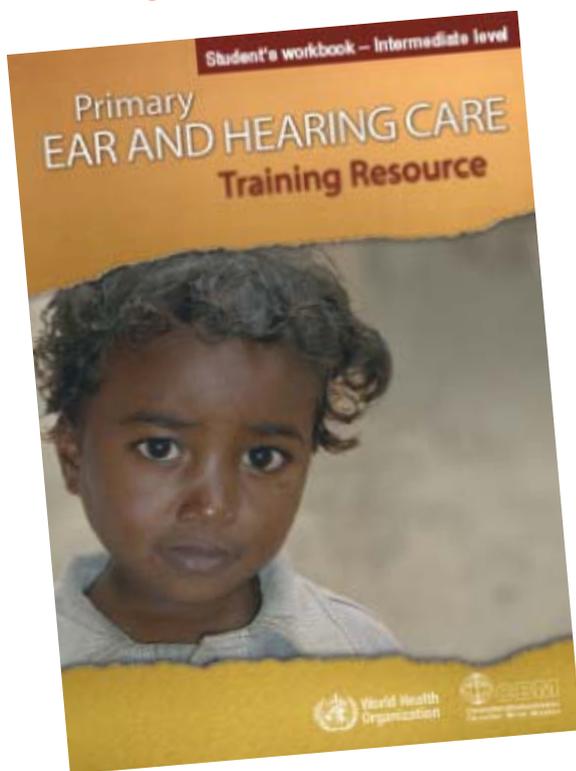
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# JUST PUBLISHED!



**World Health  
Organization**

## Primary Ear and Hearing Care Training Resource



2006, 346 pages (4 volumes) [E]  
ISBN 92 4 159361 X (set)  
CHF 60.00/US\$ 54.00  
In developing countries: CHF 30.00/US\$ 27.00  
Order no. 11500667

2006, CD-ROM [E]  
ISBN 92 4 154697 2  
CHF 30.00/US\$ 27.00  
In developing countries: CHF 15.00/US\$ 13.50  
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The *WHO Training Resource on Primary Ear and Hearing Care* is a new set of four training manuals aimed at equipping primary health care workers in developing countries with simple and effective methods to reduce the burden of ear and hearing disorders.

Although half of all deafness and hearing impairment is avoidable, an estimated 278 million people worldwide are living with disabling hearing impairment (moderate or worse level of hearing loss in the better hearing ear). Many more have mild hearing loss and/or ear diseases. One quarter of hearing impairment begins during childhood, and 80% of all deaf and hearing impaired people live in low and middle income countries.

These often life-long and sometimes life-threatening problems may have profound effects on: inter-personal communication, education, employment, social relationships and through stigmatization. They produce substantial economic burdens on countries.

Some of the most effective interventions against ear and hearing problems can be implemented at the primary level by trained primary ear and hearing care (PEHC) workers or primary health care (PHC) workers or their equivalents. Used on a large scale, these interventions will have a major impact on the burden of ear disease and hearing loss. However most developing countries do not have PEHC workers and the topic is hardly addressed in the training of PHC workers. Workers in Community-based rehabilitation (CBR) programmes rarely deal with this field.

*The Primary Ear and Hearing Care Training Resource* addresses the urgent need for action to prevent and manage ear diseases and hearing impairment. The manuals provide practical information and guidance and can be used as part of a training course, stand-alone training module or in a self-taught manner. They are designed to be useful to a wide range of primary health care personnel. The manuals can also be used to help communities understand common causes of deafness and hearing impairment and ways to prevent and/or treat the conditions.

Christoffel-Blindenmission (CBM) provided technical inputs and fully funded the development and production of the resource.

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# Publications

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Web site: <http://www.who.int/bookorders>

## WHAT'S INSIDE THIS PUBLICATION?

The **WHO Primary Ear and Hearing Care Training Resource** consists of user-friendly manuals at basic, intermediate and advanced levels. Teaching aids such as posters are included. They are culturally appropriate for training of village health workers, PEHC, PHC and CBR workers, and also more experienced personnel working at primary level.

The resource focuses on community involvement and raising awareness, and covers basic measures for prevention and management. A section on hearing aids is included for communities where there are no other trained personnel to help people use them effectively. It should help deaf and hard of hearing people to become accepted and productive at home, at school, in the workplace and in society in general.

### THE BASIC LEVEL OF THE TRAINING RESOURCE

Clear information, diagrams and drawings enable PHC and CBR workers, village health workers teachers and parents to help people in the community prevent and recognize common ear diseases and hearing impairment and when to refer.

### THE INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

This level consists of a trainer's manual, a student's workbook and teaching aids.

The trainer's manual covers the knowledge and skills needed by the PEHC trainer for interactive training. Through interactive exercises the student's workbook teaches the essential knowledge, skills and attitudes the student needs to apply them. Simple, accessible methods and materials are described using diagrams and photographs to enable students to practice essential techniques safely e.g. syringing ears.

Modules comprise:

1. Structure and function of the ear
2. Hearing impairment and deafness: Causes and prevention
3. The outer ear: examine, treat, refer
4. The ear canal: examine, diagnose, clean
5. The middle ear: examine, diagnose, treat
6. Assessing hearing and counselling
7. Hearing aids (benefits, types, care, maintenance)

### THE ADVANCED LEVEL

This level reinforces and extends previous learning so as to prevent, detect, diagnose, manage and rehabilitate ear and hearing disorders effectively at the primary level. It is intended for training experienced PHC/PEHC workers who should then be able to recognize and manage more complex ear disease and hearing impairment. Students are asked to discuss case studies and recommend appropriate management of hearing impairment.

Modules comprise:

1. Prevalence, causes and prevention of deafness and hearing impairment
  2. Examination of the ear
  3. Detection, screening and testing of hearing impairment
  4. Ear conditions – diagnosis and treatment
  5. Ear operations
  6. Noise-induced hearing impairment
  7. Aural habilitation, rehabilitation and education
  8. Hearing aids (benefits, types, functioning, care, maintenance)
- Annex: Elements of a National Programme for Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Impairment

## ORDER FORM

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