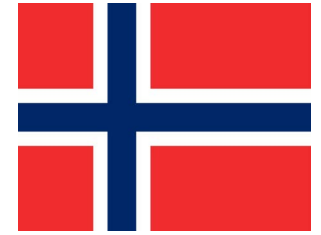


HEARING LOSS IN NORWAY



60% of Norwegians with hearing loss are not aware of the link between hearing loss and comorbidities.

With this, Norway ranks 3rd worst, compared to other European countries.



40% of Norwegians are affected by some degree of hearing loss at the age of 74.

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

Only 37% of the Norwegian population with hearing loss had a hearing test during the last 5 years.



93% of Norwegians hearing device users said their quality of life improved.



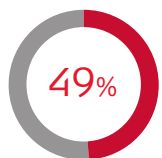
Almost **9 out of 10** working hearing aid users state that their hearing device is useful for their job.

54% of Norwegian hearing aid users don't know whether they would get reimbursed for a hearing device.



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.



49% of Norwegians with hearing loss use a hearing aid. With this, Norway is above the European average.

1 in 10 general practitioners fail to recommend necessary follow-up actions, despite being the initial point of contact for Norwegians seeking help for their hearing problems.

