

Additional File

Table 1. Sociodemographic characteristics of participants with self-reported hearing loss in the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA) Wave 7 (n=2,249, aged 50-89).			
Variable	Self-reported measurement		
	Self-reported hearing difficulty (n=2,249) ^a	Moderate self-reported hearing difficulty ^b (n=1,565)	Moderately severe or severe self-reported hearing difficulty ^c (n=684)
Gender			
Male	1,243 (55.3)	832 (53.2)	411 (60.1)
Female	1,006 (44.7)	733 (46.8)	273 (39.9)
Missing	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Age group			
50-64	624 (28.9)	456 (30.2)	168 (26.0)
65-74	739 (34.2)	545 (36.0)	194 (30.0)
75-89	796 (36.9)	511 (33.8)	285 (44.0)
Missing	90 (4.0)	53 (3.3)	37 (5.4)
Currently married			
No	814 (36.2)	562 (35.9)	252 (36.8)
Yes	1,435 (63.8)	1,003 (64.1)	432 (63.2)
Missing	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Retirement status			
Retired	1,563 (69.5)	1,076 (68.8)	487 (71.2)
Not retired	686 (30.5)	489 (31.2)	197 (28.8)
Missing	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Education			
Degree/Higher Education	646 (29.5)	471 (31.0)	175 (26.2)
A level	180 (8.2)	127 (8.3)	53 (7.9)
O level/CSE grade	476 (21.7)	350 (23.0)	126 (18.9)
Foreign/Other	256 (11.7)	182 (12.0)	74 (11.1)
No qualifications	632 (28.9)	392 (25.8)	240 (35.9)
Missing	59 (2.6)	43 (2.7)	16 (2.3)
Occupation based National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC)			
Managerial and professional occupations	484 (24.8)	353 (26.0)	131 (22.0)
Intermediate occupations (non-manual)	684 (35.0)	495 (36.5)	189 (31.7)
Routine and manual occupations	784 (40.2)	508 (37.5)	276 (46.3)
Missing	297 (13.2)	209 (13.3)	88 (12.8)
Net Household Income			
Fifth quintile (highest)	284 (14.3)	217 (15.7)	67 (11.2)
Fourth quintile	391 (19.7)	291 (21.0)	100 (16.7)
Third quintile	461 (23.2)	297 (21.4)	164 (27.3)
Second quintile	460 (23.2)	312 (22.5)	148 (24.7)
First quintile (lowest)	389 (19.6)	268 (19.4)	121 (20.2)
Missing	264 (11.7)	180 (11.5)	84 (12.2)

(Continued)

Table 1 (continued) Sociodemographic characteristics of participants with self-reported hearing difficulties (N=8,529, aged 50-89)			
Self-reported measurement ^a			
Variable	Self-reported hearing difficulty (n=2,249)	Moderate self-reported hearing difficulty (n=1,565)	Moderately severe or severe self-reported hearing difficulty (n=684)
Net Financial Wealth			
Fifth quintile (highest)	386 (19.5)	280 (20.2)	106 (17.7)
Fourth quintile	391 (19.7)	283 (20.4)	108 (18.0)
Third quintile	457 (23.0)	331 (24.0)	126 (21.0)
Second quintile	443 (22.3)	301 (21.7)	142 (23.7)
First quintile (lowest)	308 (15.5)	190 (13.7)	118 (19.6)
Missing	264 (11.7)	180 (11.5)	84 (12.2)

Values are expressed as column N (%) unless otherwise is indicated.

^a The sum of those who rated their hearing as fair or poor on a 5-point Likert scale (with 1 indicating excellent; 2, very good; 3, good; 4, fair; and 5, poor) or responded that they have moderate or great difficulty in following a conversation if there is background noise (such as television, radio, or children playing).

^b Moderate self-reported hearing difficulty: if their hearing was fair OR had moderate difficulty following a conversation in background noise.

^c Moderately severe or severe self-reported hearing difficulty: if their hearing was poor OR had great difficulty following a conversation in background noise.