

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-58793

Title: Hearing loss

Recommendation:

- Accept as it is
- ✓ Accept after minor revision.....
- Accept after major revision
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance		✓		

Reviewer Name: Dr S. K. Nath

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Strength of the study:

- The study addresses an important public health problem
- The study uses actual patient records from a hospital audiology center
- Clear inclusion and exclusion criteria are provided
- Audiological investigations are described in reasonable detail
- The study reports demographic and clinical characteristics
- Hearing loss types are presented with percentages
- Findings are compared with several previous studies

Weakness of the study:

- The sample size is very small, with only 30 patients
- The study period is relatively short
- Statistical analysis is limited to Microsoft Excel
- No clear statistical tests or confidence intervals are reported
- Ethical approval is not mentioned
- The study does not clearly define the main outcome measures
- Some percentages and age group descriptions appear inconsistent

Reviewer's Comments:

The manuscript presents a clinically relevant retrospective study describing the demographic, clinical and audiological characteristics of patients with hearing loss attending a newly established audiology center in Mauritania. The subject is useful, and the inclusion of audiometry, tympanometry, acoustic reflex testing and hearing aid fitting provides practical clinical information. However, the study has important limitations. The sample size is only 30 patients, which substantially limits the strength and generalizability of the findings. The use of Microsoft Excel alone is also inadequate for a study described as descriptive and analytical, as no statistical tests or measures of uncertainty are presented. The manuscript does not report ethical clearance or approval for the use of patient records, and this should be clearly stated. The grammar, spelling, spacing and sentence construction need careful editing throughout the manuscript. Some percentages and descriptions should also be checked for consistency. Overall, the study has value but requires substantial methodological and editorial improvement before publication.

Previously Published anywhere/Plagiarism check:

No obvious evidence of previous publication is apparent from the submitted manuscript. However, a definitive plagiarism assessment cannot be made from the manuscript alone. A formal similarity check should be conducted by the journal before publication. The authors should also verify the references and ensure that all cited sources are correctly represented.