

Linking up Listening Life

Improving Hearing Healthcare in the 21st Century

Authors Clare Boddy, Advanced Specialist in Communication. Nottingham Auditory Implant Programme. Clare.boddy@nuh.nhs.uk
 Gayle Leeson, Lead Rehabilitationist, Emmeline Centre, Addenbrookes Hospital. gayle.leeson@addenbrookes.nhs.uk
 Joy Rosenberg, Principal Lecturer, Mary Hare partnered to University of Hertfordshire. j.rosenberg@maryhare.org.uk

Hearing impaired individuals are required to engage with a wide range of professionals who have different expertise and skill sets. The value of the Educational Audiology role is in combining impairment-focused clinical models of working with the functional and socio-dynamic approach of education and therapy-based professionals. It benefits provision of a holistic approach to supporting patients and considers how the skills and training of Educational Audiologists is a valuable means of achieving effective multi-disciplinary working.

There are 'powerful learning opportunities in the shared experiences' of educationalists and clinicians learning together.


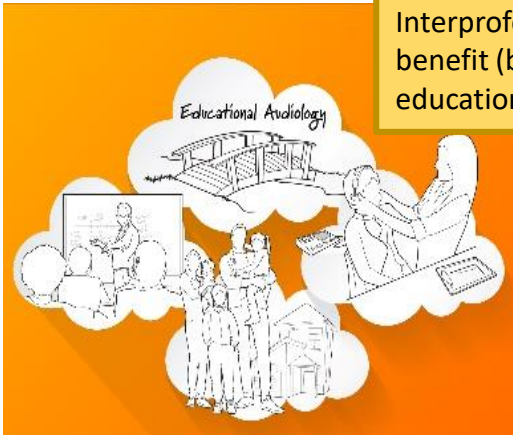
Developments in Educational Audiology

2018 British Society of Audiology's Paediatric Audiology Interest Group commission e-learning module on Educational Audiology.

2019 Educational Audiologists register professionally with Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists (RCCP) after course accredited by British Academy of Audiology.

2020 Stand-alone modules for CPD launched: Educational Audiology Postgraduate course Mary Hare partnered to Uni of Herts.

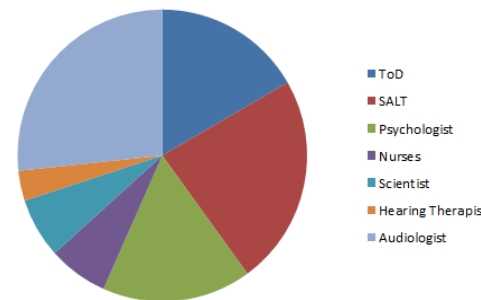
Interprofessional Education pilot under way showing benefit (blue bubbles) to mutual learning of clinicians and educationalists.

We are developing ways to 'improve each of our own services in conjunction with the others'.

Hearing Implant Centre (HIC) professionals survey

- An informal survey on joint working was carried out with 9 UK HICs.
- All HICs viewed close working with Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) as core to practice, including meeting discussions and appointments, particularly in complex cases.
- Chart shows range of professions reported to be directly available to HICs.
- 4 out of 9 HICs include Educational Audiologists and other centres are interested in developing their role.
- Emmeline Centre highlight benefits of collaborative working between audiologists and rehabilitationists in their Hearing Implants Devices Optimization Clinic to better support patients with listening challenges.



Educational Audiologists serve as an expedient bridge between families, school and clinic with roles and competencies defined by the British Association of Educational Audiology. Heads of Service employ different approaches to provision of educational audiology service in different areas, highlighting its essential nature.