



Gil Kaminski

- Gil is the daughter of Prof. Michal Luntz, M.D., a CI surgeon and user. Inspired by CIs, Gil began her career as a biomedical engineer, focusing on machine learning and AI for healthcare, and later worked in healthcare operations and strategy.
- Gil is the Co-founder of Humelan, an AI-powered person-centered hearing health and wellness platform, dedicated to helping people navigate the hearing health world.

Including Families In Adult Hearing Care

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The Inclusion of Family and Person-Centered Services in the Living Guidelines Project is a Key Element

"It is difficult to differentiate between the life journey and the communication journey"- Prof. Michal Luntz, my mother.





Why Should We Include Families in Adult Hearing Care?



Essential in any healthcare and wellness journey

Engaging your family and close friends—your support network—is a critical element for success in any health and wellness journey.



It takes two to communicate

Families have a key role in creating accessible and inclusive communication environments.



Hearing loss impacts all family members

Hearing loss impacts not only the individual but also their family, requiring planning, teamwork, and understanding of the emotional, behavioral, and daily effects on all family members.

What is Self-Advocating?

- “Coach your environment relentlessly”
- Systems advocacy



How Should We Include Families in Adult Hearing Care?

1

What to expect

2

Strategies for effective communication

3

Supporting a family member with hearing loss as they self-advocate

Impact on all family members

1. What to expect



The benefits of hearing technologies, and their imperfections



What to expect in different environments, which assistive technologies can help



How to support your family member during different phases of hearing loss



What to expect of the journey - Hearing loss and life are dynamic, it will all keep changing, we need to keep learning and adjusting

2. Strategies for effective communication



Communication 101 - how to communicate together effectively.

For example:

- Which side of each-other to walk on
- Make sure your face is always well lit, don't sit with your back to the sun
- Don't cover your mouth



How to educate others in the family, like young children

3. Supporting a family member with hearing loss as they self-advocate

01

Educate family on the ongoing need for self-advocacy

02

Train family on how to support self-advocacy

- The person with hearing loss knows best what they need in different environments
- The family needs to make them comfortable and confident in telling others what they need - "Coaching their environment relentlessly"
- Have conversations about when the family should or shouldn't advocate

Thank you