



# Neelam Vaid

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- She is actively involved in research, clinical treatment and education relating to all aspects of ENT for 30 years.
- Her CI programme actively involves all family members!

# THE LIVING GUIDELINES

## *A REALITY CHECK*

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India

**CIICA LIVE**  
**THE LIVING GUIDELINES:**  
**IMPACT ON ADULT CI**  
**SERVICES AND ACCESS?**



Its there.....



- Having trouble hearing over the phone
- Finding it hard to follow conversations when two or more people are talking
- Needing to ask people to regularly repeat what they are saying
- Needing to turn up the television volume so loud that others complain
- Having trouble hearing because of background noise
- Thinking that others seem to mumble
- Finding different speakers difficult to hear such as children and softly spoken persons

Hearing  
screening &  
assessment

Above the  
age of 50  
yrs

Every 1 – 3  
years

7 – 8 yrs  
average gap  
between  
onset of  
hearing loss  
and formal  
testing

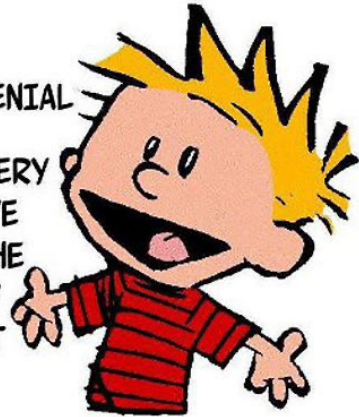
# Reasons

Denial

Economic

IT'S NOT DENIAL

I'M JUST VERY  
SELECTIVE  
ABOUT THE  
REALITY  
I ACCEPT





Awareness

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Primary Health  
givers

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Physicians

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E.N.T. Surgeons

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Audiologists

- Cardiovascular disease
- Diabetes
- Ototoxicity
- Kidney dysfunction
- Noise exposure
- Tinnitus and
- Significant family history

## Challenges

## Patient

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Uneven hearing loss is common. They manage with the better ear

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Most of them have acquired speech reading skills

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Otitis media is common. Acts as a deterrent to get amplification devices

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Dependent on family for access to medical care due to restricted mobility

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Financial decisions are made by the family even though they may have their own funds

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As elders ..most conversations will be held at 3 – 5 ft distance so they do not feel the need

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QOL – not an important aspect in the Indian context

## Challenges

## Audiologist

Training has focused on paediatric age group – early diagnosis and intervention

Most centres do not show case adult implantees

Hearing amplification devices have acquired a bad name due to inadequate counselling and no stress on aural rehabilitation.

Limited awareness about candidacy for adult cochlear implantation



# Adult CI in India

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Awareness in the audiologists/ ENT surgeons - has to start at the training level. The students are poorly informed about adult CI

The living guidelines serves as a ready reckoner

Cochlear Implant Group of India (CIGI) in the past couple of years is focusing on this in the annual meetings

Theres a lot to be done..as someone said Adult CI in India is still Greek and Latin to most

USING THE  
LIVING  
GUIDELINES AS  
AN ADVOCACY  
TOOL IS  
DEFINITELY  
GOING TO BE A  
STEP IN THE  
RIGHT  
DIRECTION



We have to acknowledge the progress we made, but understand that we still have a long way to go. That things are better, but still not good enough.

— *Barack Obama* —

AZ QUOTES