# Living Guidelines for adult CI-care: adoption into country specific guidelines

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# Living Guidelines for Adult CI care

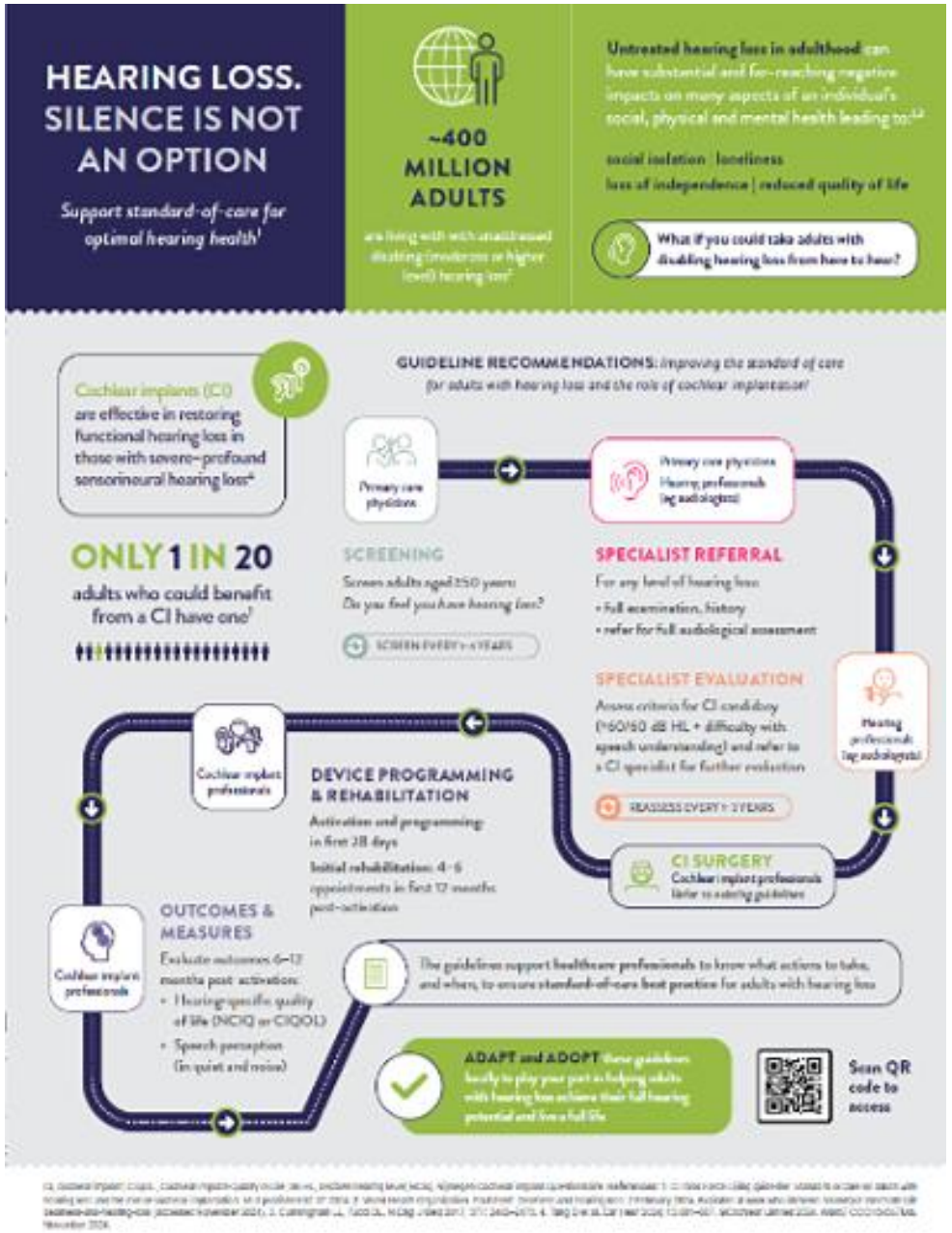
- Developed by a **global taskforce of 55 experts** led by **four co-chairs**
- Focussing on **the whole journey** from screening till lifelong aftercare
- Based on an **extensive review** of the clinical hearing literature (13861 citations), supplemented with input from **interviews of the CI Task Force** (55 experts from around the globe) **and CIICA** (Cochlear Implant International Community of Action).
- Launched in July **2023 and continuously updated** online


Angel Ramos Marcias


Meredith Holcomb


Leo De Raeve


Camille C Dunn



# Living Guidelines for Adult CI care


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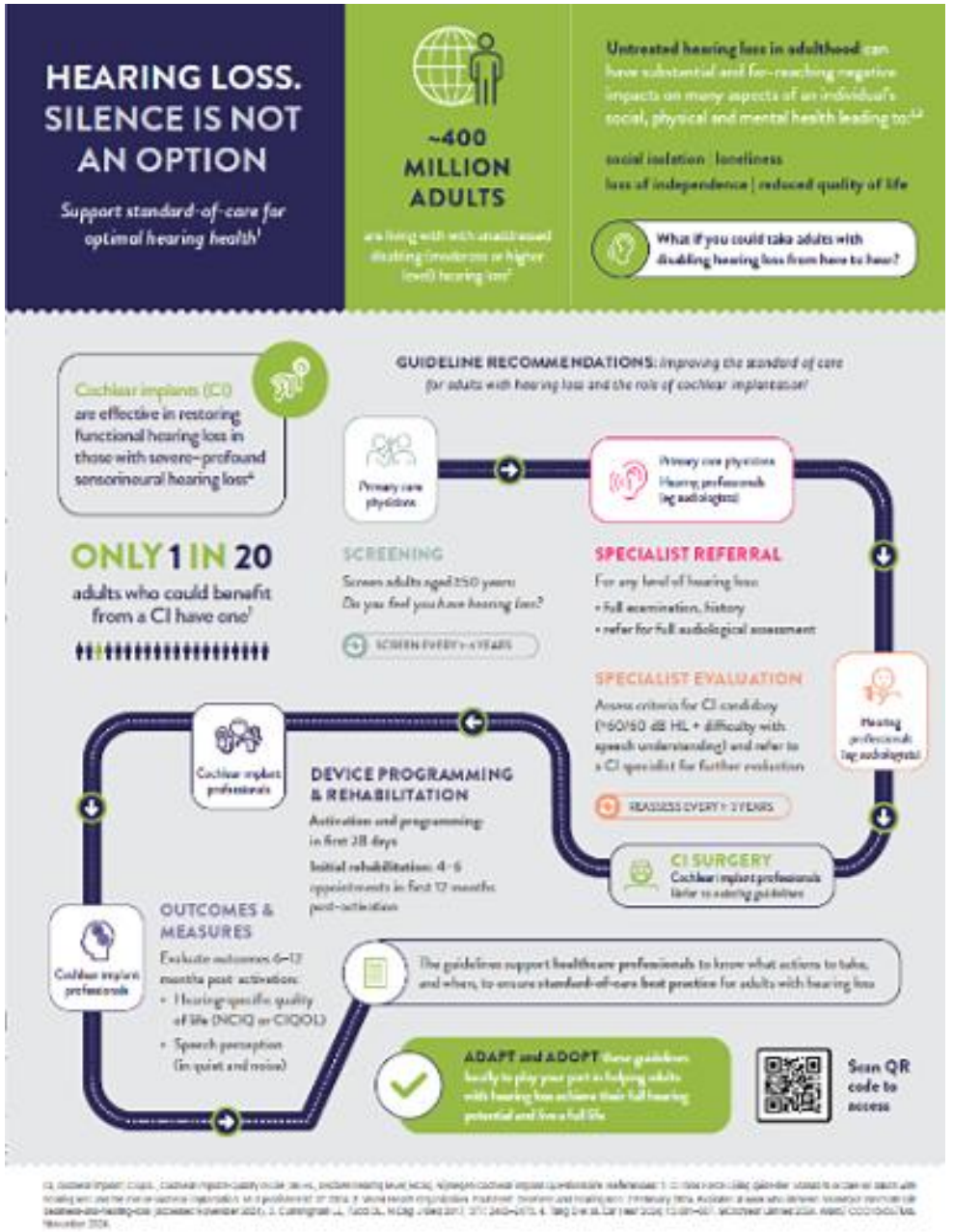

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Screening of adults ≥ 50 years
- Referral of patients with hearing loss
- 60/60 candidacy for CI
- Activation within 28 days
- 4-6 appointments in first year
- Assess hearing outcome and QoL with defined instruments
- Available on Magic App: MAGICapp - Global Adult CI guideline



# From global guideline to local treatment practice

KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

- Strong multidisciplinary collaboration
- Involvement of professional societies and patient groups
- Definition of clear criteria for screening, CI candidacy and referral
- Ongoing dissemination and education
- Structured implementation plans
- Data-driven monitoring and feedback loops to ensure guideline efficacy




Global evidence based guidelines in place

Local adult CI guidelines based on the global guidelines established in 25 countries to date

Several countries have active programs to adapt treatment practice to local guidelines

# 7-STEPS TO A LOCAL GUIDELINE FOR ADULT CI



# Adaption of global guidelines into country guidelines



Australia/
New Zealand

- Screening of adults >50 with concerns of HL
- CI recommended at HL >60 dB / speech <70%
- CI recommended for SSD and asymetric HL



Italy

- CI recommended at HL >75 dB / speech TBD
- CI conditional for SSD and asymetric HL



Saudi Arabia

- Screening of adults >18
- CI recommended at HL >60 dB / speech <60%
- CI recommended for SSD and asymetric HL



GCC

- Guidelines developed for UAE, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain and Kuwait
- CI recommended at HL >60 dB / speech <60%
- CI recommended for SSD and asymetric HL



Norway

- CI recommended at HL >65 dB & difficulty with hearing aids
- CI recommended for SSD and asymetric HL



USA

- CI recommended at HL >60 dB / speech <60%
- CI recommended for SSD and asymetric HL



Turkey

- Screening of adults >55
- CI recommended at HL >70 dB / speech <50%
- Pediatric guidelines added



Latin America

- Hearing evaluation offered to adults >50
- CI recommended at HL >60 dB / speech <60%
- Pediatric guidelines added



Sweden

- CI recommended at HL >65 dB / speech <65%
- CI recommended for SSD and asymetric HL
- National registry to monitor referral



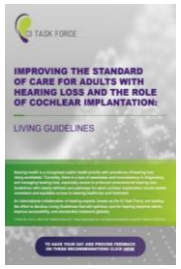
Finland

- CI recommended at HL >65 dB & difficulty with hearing aids
- CI recommended for SSD and asymetric HL

# Significant progress in adoption of the Global Guidelines

## Global Living Guidelines

CI TASK FORCE




## United States

- HHC focuses on research to medicalize hearing loss through staging
- ARHL guidelines are being distributed to ENT, AuD, PCP, HIS and patients for broad application.

*Learning exchange meeting in Feb 2026*

## Australia and NZ

- Launch of ANZ guidelines in Sept 2025
- 4-year implementation plan funding approved (Feb ’26) by NHMRC for $1.5m for June ’26 commencement with 14 partner organisations

## LATAM +7

Guidelines Feb 2025, 2 publications pending, securing endorsement from medical associations, adapting protocols in key hospitals, and building equitable access. 160+ clinicians from all over LATAM.

## Nordic

Sweden, Norway and Finland have ongoing work to implement guidelines. Sweden 65/50, Norway and Finland 65/ difficulty w HA. Sweden also leverage national registry to drive referrals for CI

## GCC

- Guidelines developed for GCC: UAE, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain and Kuwait
- Revealed at EROC in Dubai 2026 and will be presented at CI2026 in Warsaw
- Focus is on a) publishing and b) driving implementation of the guidelines

## Italy

- Guidelines in place. Focus is working with ENT’s and HA dispensers to specify what “HAs are not enough“ precisely means; to leverage the national guidelines and drive CI referrals

## Saudi Arabia

- Guidelines presented at ESPCI in Hannover 2025
- Guidelines were presented at IFOS Webinars in Nov 2025 and will be presented at IFOS World Congress in Istanbul 2026

*Inspired by Italy and Saudi approach*

## Turkey

- Advisory board of 14 audiologists and CI/BAHA ENT’s developed adult guidelines incl. screening, referral, and indication from 90 -> 70dB.

# Examples of adoption into clinical practice



Australia/
New Zealand

**Grant secured to progress care practice for severe-profound HL**

- Systematically examine enablers and barriers to guideline
- Design a robust and feasible implementation plan
- Deploy implementation strategies and tools across key states
- Determine impact on care delivery



USA

**Three working groups defined to progress care practice**

- Establish vital sign for hearing loss to grow awareness
- Define staging system for hearing loss to define best treatment
- Secure evidence based timely referrals for CI evaluation



France

**Whitepaper outlining recommendations for severe-profound HL**

- Education of hearing care professionals
- Refer of patients with severe-profound hearing loss
- Define treatment pathway to improve access
- Work toward same day CI assessment
- Outsource activities around CI clinics where possible
- Promote a culture of sharing good practices between clinics



Sweden

**Person-centered & cohesive care process for severe to profound HL**

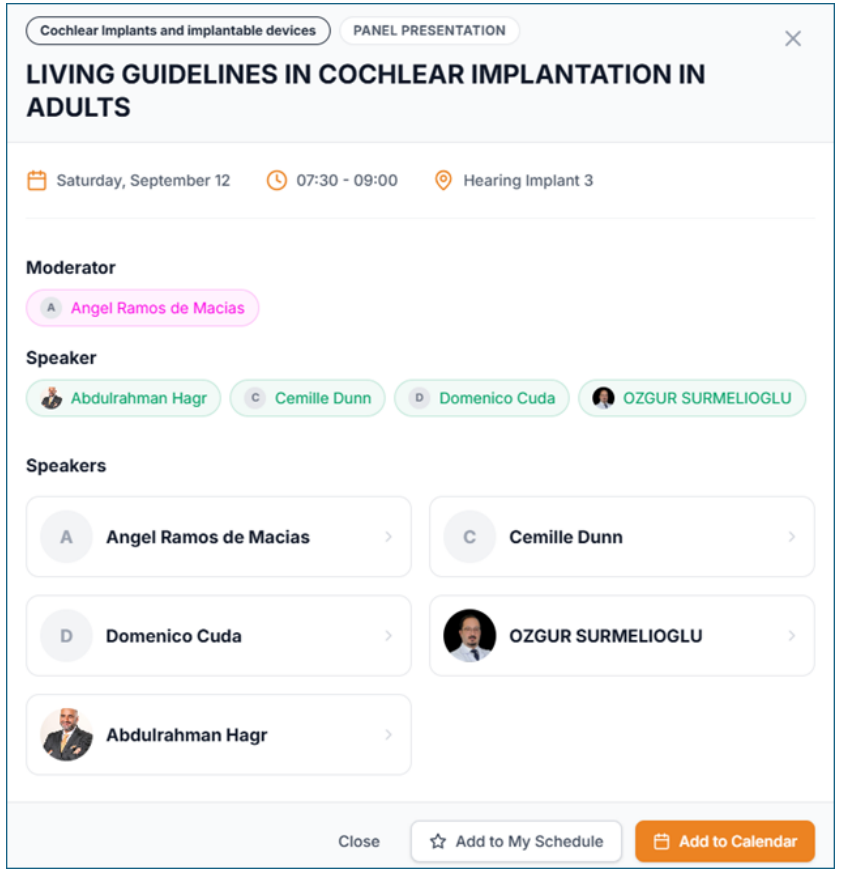
- CI should always be considered as an option for severe hearing loss
- Patients with severe HL shall receive information about CI and based on needs undergo CI habilitation or CI rehabilitation

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# Endorsement by IFOS (International Federation of ORL Societies)

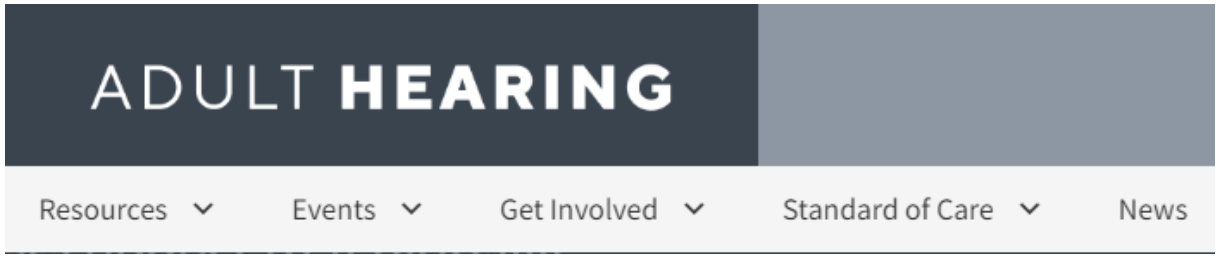
IFOS has agreed to endorse the Living Guidelines and will promote them to their members through:

- Regular updates to members on the Living Guidelines
- Webinars where clinicians from around the world present their work to implement the guidelines
- Panel session at their world congress in Istanbul, September 2026

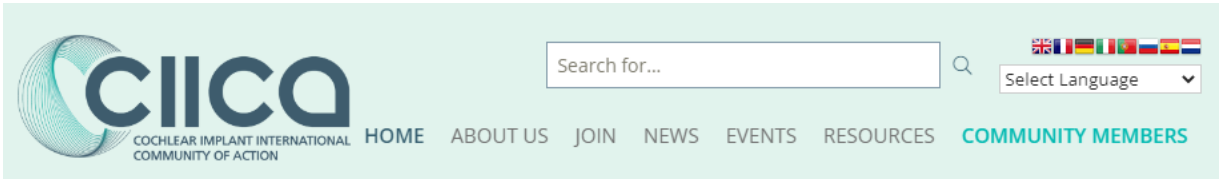



The International Federation of ORL Societies (IFOS), is a non-political organization representing over 50,000 Otolaryngologists belonging to about 120 member nations.

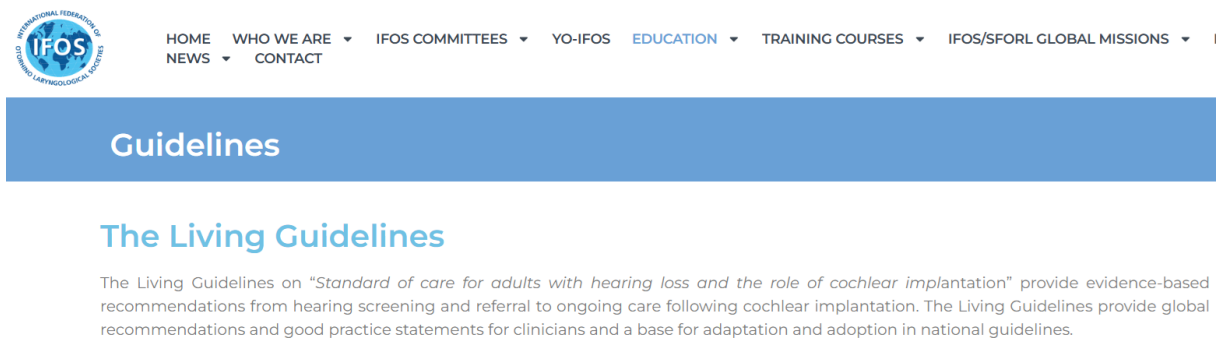
# Living Guidelines can support policy makers, healthcare professionals and patients to design and navigate the hearing health path




- www.adulthearing.com




- www.ciicanet.org




- https://ifosworld.org/guidelines/

# Thank you for your attention

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