

Significant Other Scale for Hearing Disability (SOS-HEAR)

We are interested in finding out what it is like having a spouse or partner with a hearing impairment. Here are some experiences that other participants have shared with us. Read each statement carefully and **circle how much of a problem it is for you**. It may or may not be a problem for you.

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I have to repeat myself often.

For me this is:

0

No problem

1

a mild
problem

2

a moderate
problem

3

a severe
problem

4

a complete
problem

2. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I have to raise the volume of my voice when talking to him/her.

For me this is:

0

No problem

1

a mild
problem

2

a moderate
problem

3

a severe
problem

4

a complete
problem

3. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties we do not communicate spontaneously or have as many conversations about trivial things as often as I would like.

For me this is:

0

No problem

1

a mild
problem

2

a moderate
problem

3

a severe
problem

4

a complete
problem

4. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I cannot whisper secrets to him/her.

For me this is:

0

No problem

1

a mild
problem

2

a moderate
problem

3

a severe
problem

4

a complete
problem

5. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I have to make sure I am face-to-face when talking to him/her.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

6. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties we do not communicate as often as I would like.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

7. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I have to answer the phone for him/her.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

8. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I have to answer for him/her during group conversations.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

9. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I have to make phone calls for him/her.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

10. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I have to 'coach' or 'cue' him/her during group conversations by telling him/her when someone is speaking to him/her.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

11. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I have to act as an interpreter during group conversations by repeating others' comments/questions to my partner.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

12. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties when we are both in conversation with others I have to listen into his/her conversation as well as my own to make sure he/she responds appropriately to what is being said.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

13. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I withdraw from my partner and do things alone.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

14. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I am less satisfied with the relationship I have with my partner.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

15. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I worry that she/he doesn't hear warnings, such as shouts or alarms.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

16. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I do not go to as many social gatherings as I would like.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

17. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I do not go to the movies and/or the theater as often as I would like.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

18. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I do not go to noisy environments (e.g. restaurants) with my partner as often as I would like.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

19. It makes me upset that I have to adapt to my partner's hearing difficulties.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

20. I am constantly thinking about my partner's hearing difficulties.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

21. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I have had to accept the situation as it is and learn to 'live with it'.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

22. It makes me angry when I have to tolerate the loud volume of the television.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

23. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties cause me to feel frustrated.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

24. Because of my partner's hearing difficulties I worry about what people think of him/her when he/she doesn't respond to questions or conversation.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

25. During social activities I have to explain my partner's hearing difficulties to friends and family to protect him/her from embarrassing situations.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem

26. I feel sorry for my partner because of his/her hearing difficulties.

For me this is:

0	1	2	3	4
No problem	a mild problem	a moderate problem	a severe problem	a complete problem