



PALTalk with Dr. Diane Sanders-Cepeda

Hearing Matters: Audiology in Senior Care

1 Hearing assessments are a standard of care.

Federal regulations call for a valid, reproducible hearing assessment by a professional within 14 days of admission.

2 Hearing loss can be hidden.

Standard MDS assessments are subjective, and observation alone often misses subtle hearing difficulties.

3 Hearing loss can affect residents' daily lives.

Unrecognized hearing challenges can cause missed care cues, lower engagement, social withdrawal, and behavior changes.

4 Hearing loss often mimics cognitive decline.

Some residents diagnosed with dementia may actually be experiencing untreated hearing loss or auditory processing challenges.

5 Services can be delivered on-site.

Facilities can partner with audiology clinics for regular visits. A quiet room and a simple setup are often all that's needed.

RESOURCES

HearScreen Test

theaudiologyproject.com/hearscreenusa

Hearing Assessment Webinar

bit.ly/SNFHearingAssess

