

## Medical News – Dr. Lin’s New Study

### Hearing loss may be related to dementia—so what!?

HLAA national Trustee, Dr. Frank Lin whose Johns Hopkins medical team continues to do research on the consequences of age related hearing loss (ARHL) addressed the Academy of Doctors of Audiology in November. He spoke about how hearing loss may be related to dementia and the importance of social engagement to counteract that.

He said that the question about the relationship of hearing loss to dementia for a clinician should be “Can I treat it?” To a clinician, the fact of the relationship between hearing loss and dementia is not as important as the question of treatments.

The good news is that Dr Lin and colleagues are hoping to answer the “Can I treat it” question with a study that will follow subjects for over 5 years, looking for possible correlates for ARHL, treated hearing loss, and dementia. The bad news is that the earliest we can expect completion of this study is 2021.

The summary of the keynote address discussing this topic can be found at:

<http://www.hearingreview.com/2014/11/dr-frank-lin-details-consequences-age-related-hearing-loss-future-avenues-ada-convention-keynote/>