

Mark Smith ^{a,b}, Samuel Couth ^a, Alinka Greasley ^c

Mark.Smith118@nhs.net / Mark.Smith-17@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk

^aManchester Centre for Audiology and Deafness, University of Manchester, UK; ^bAudiology Services, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, UK; ^cSchool of Music, University of Leeds, UK

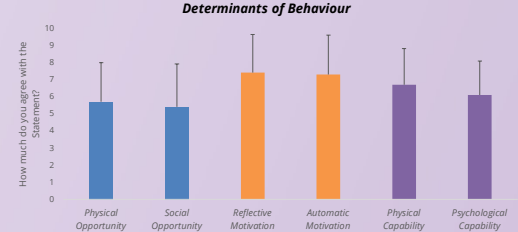
Background

- Musicians may be at high risk of hearing damage due to regular noise exposure. High levels of hearing loss and related disorders are reported by musicians (Di Stadio et al. 2018).
- Hearing health is essential to a musician's ability to perform, their career and enjoyment of music.
- It is important musicians are offered and receive appropriate audiological care for their individual needs, however formal training on providing services for musicians is rarely offered to audiologists.
- There is currently no practice guidelines available for providing audiology services for musicians within the UK and there has been no systematic exploration on the current provision of services.

Aims

- To explore the current provision of audiology services for musicians.
- To identify the barriers for audiologists to providing comprehensive care for Musicians.

COM-B



Highest Agreement was seen with statements regarding being **Motivated** to provide audiology services for musicians. **Lowest Agreement** was seen with statements regarding having the **Opportunity** to provide audiology services for musicians.

"I have the skills and the motivation to get there but I don't have the resources"

Common Barriers identified through thematic analysis of the interviews included:

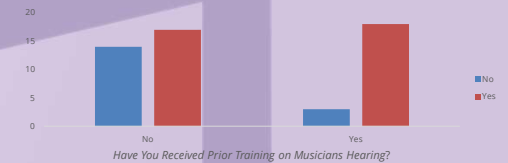
- **Lack of Knowledge** on hearing protection and rehabilitation unique for musicians
- **Lack of Resources** and recommendations for best practice

Audiological Training

Those who reported they had received previous Audiological Training on Musicians hearing were:

- **More Confident in providing services to Musicians** ($\chi^2 = 12.8, p = 0.05$).
- **More likely to know what type of hearing protection to recommend** ($\chi^2 = 5.4, p = 0.02$)
- **More likely to know what Hearing aid settings to Recommend** ($\chi^2 = 6.8, p = 0.01$)

Do You Know What Type of Hearing Protection to Recommend?



Summary

- Musicians are often seen as patients by audiologists for a range of services requiring individualised care.
- Audiologists are not always confident at providing care for this group and knowledge of how to adjust care for musicians is varied.
- Receiving training on musicians hearing showed positive effects on practice.
- Using the COM-B model helped to identify key barriers to effective care including available resources (Opportunity) and knowledge (Capability).
- BCW suggests Interventions should focus on further education and training and creating guidelines and resources.

References: Di Stadio et al (2018) IJERPH. 15, 2120., Mitchie et al. (2011) Implement Sci. 6,42.

Methods

Design and Procedures

Mixed methods approach:

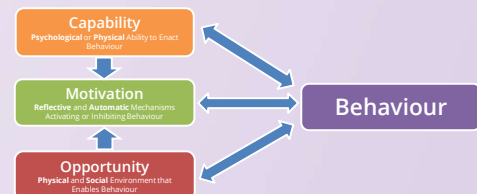
Online **Survey Completed by Audiologists** evaluating current practice with musicians on:

- Consultation
- Rehabilitation and Conservation
- Attitudes and Beliefs

Follow-up online **Semi-Structured Interview** exploring barriers and facilitators to providing audiological care to musicians.



We used the **Behaviour Change Wheel (BCW)** which provides a systematic approach to designing behaviour change interventions. At the centre of the wheel is the **COM-B** model for identifying the barriers/facilitators of a target behaviour:

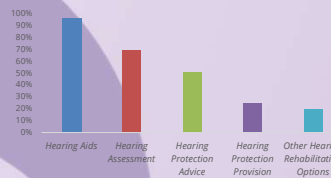


Survey Participants	52
Mean Age	36
Gender	77% Female
Background in Music	56%
Prior Training on Musicians Hearing	40%
Sector Practicing	79% NHS
Interview Participants	9

Results

Consultation

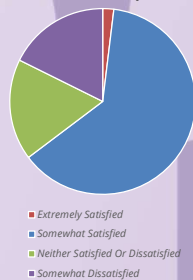
What services do you provide for musicians?



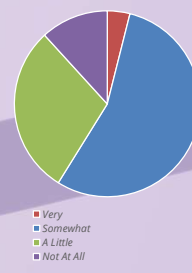
- **1/3** of Respondents encounter Musicians at least **Monthly**
- **2/3rds** encounter musicians at least **Quarterly**
- **Only 4%** report they **Never** see musicians

"I think we should always treat all of our patients as individuals"

Do you think Musicians are satisfied with the services provided?



Do you feel confident providing services for musicians?



"I automatically feel I can't provide musicians with enough and I feel like I'm not good enough to give them what they need"

Hearing Protection and Aids

- **69%** of Audiologists reported they know what **Type of Hearing Protection Devices** to Recommend to Musicians
- **37%** of Audiologists reported they know **What Level of Attenuation** to recommend to Musicians
- **51%** of Audiologists reported they know what **Type of Hearing aid** to recommends to Musicians
- **71%** reported they know what **Hearing Aid Settings** to recommend to musicians