

# Hearing Loss and Dementia



Did you know that untreated hearing loss has been shown to be associated with the development of and increased severity of dementia?

"The general perception is that hearing loss is a relatively inconsequential part of aging," says Frank Lin, M.D., an otologist and epidemiologist at Johns Hopkins University. With recent findings, he says, suggest that hearing loss may play a much more important role in brain health than we've previously thought. A recent study in *The Archives of Neurology* indicates "older adults with hearing loss appear more likely to develop dementia, and their risk increases as hearing loss becomes more severe". Hearing loss is linked to the exhaustion of cognitive reserve, social isolation, and the elimination of sensory nerve fibers. **Basically, when you are not hearing, a part of your brain is not working!**

The audiologists at Accent on Hearing firmly recommend that the effective use of amplification (hearing aids) should begin when hearing loss is detected to minimize the likelihood and effects of dementia.



Castle Rock's *Premier* Hearing Healthcare Provider

303-663-2235

[www.accentonhearing.net](http://www.accentonhearing.net)