

Virtually & In-person in Niagara Falls, Canada  
9 November 2021 | 9:00 am – 4:30 pm EST

<b>Programme</b>	
8:00am – 9:00am	<i>Networking Breakfast</i>
9:00am – 10:00am	<p><b>Keynote Addresses: Hearing Care and Healthy Ageing</b></p> <p><b>Prof. Blake Wilson</b> <i>Director, Duke Hearing Centre; and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Head and Neck Surgery &amp; Communication Sciences and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Duke University, United States of America</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Shelly Chadha</b> <i>Technical Officer, Ear and Hearing Care, World Health Organization, Switzerland</i></p> <p>The convergence of the World Health Organization (WHO) World Report on Hearing and the Global Report on Ageism within the context of the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing will be introduced and explored in anticipation of the launch of the Lancet Commission report on the global burden of hearing loss, to highlight the importance of ear and hearing care throughout the life course in support of healthy ageing.</p>
10:00am – 10:30am	<i>Health Break</i>
10:30am – 12:00pm	<p><b>Part I: Situating Stigma and Ageism in the Context of Hearing in Later Life</b></p> <p><i>Moderator:</i></p> <p><b>Ms. Laura Tamblyn Watts</b> <i>President and Chief Executive Officer, CanAge, Canada</i></p> <p>The knowledge, attitudes and practices of individuals and societies with respect to hearing loss and ageing have significant implications for help-seeking behaviour and for functional ability throughout the life course for persons living with hearing loss. This session explores various forms of stigma and ageism, from the individual to the structural level, within the context of hearing loss and healthy ageing.</p>
	<p>10:30am – 11:00am</p> <p><b>Lived Experience of Ageing with Hearing Loss</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Ruth Warick</b> <i>President, International Federation of Hard of Hearing, Canada</i></p> <p>Individuals' experiences of stigma associated with ageing and hearing loss have implications for communication, relationships, participation in everyday life, health, and well-being. Maximizing the functional ability of individuals and the degree of equity within society is predicated on effectively and appropriately responding to the lived experiences of stigmatized populations. Importantly, older people living with hearing loss can play a key role in co-constructing new approaches to promote healthy ageing and communication accessibility.</p>
	<p>11:00am – 11:15am</p> <p><b>Psychological Well-being: Ageism and Adaptational Processes</b></p> <p><b>Prof. Hans-Werner Wahl</b> <i>Senior Professor of Psychological Aging Research; and Director of the Network Aging Research, University of Heidelberg, Germany</i></p>

		<p>Psychosocial well-being can be compromised by the negative perceptions of and attitudes towards ageing and hearing loss held by individuals and society. The uptake of and potential benefits from ear and hearing care for older adults will depend on combating ageism and promoting subjective well-being. Those living with hearing loss could benefit from better physical-technological environments for healthy ageing, and from interventions to support adaptational processes related to chronic functional decline.</p>
	11:15am – 11:30am	<p><b>Breaking Down Silos: Cross-cutting Framework for Tackling Stigma</b> <b>Dr. Laura Nyblade</b> <i>Fellow, Health Policy and Senior Technical Advisor, RTI International Global Health Division, United States of America</i></p> <p>Much research to date regarding health-related stigma has occurred within silos, for example HIV, mental illness and substance abuse. However, there may be parallels in the drivers, manifestations, and outcomes of stigma across multiple stigmatized populations. From a societal perspective, there is an urgent need to bridge silos, disciplines, and jurisdictions to effectively address health-related stigmas and improve global health equity.</p>
	11:30am – 11:45am	<p><b>Combating Ageism in Long-term Care Settings with Effective Models of Care</b> <b>Prof. Katherine McGilton</b> <i>Senior Scientist at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute-University Health Network, Scientist at the KITE Research Institute at University Health Network, and Professor at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto, Canada</i></p> <p>Appropriate long-term care of older adults with sensory loss, including those with hearing loss, is based on the development and application of effective interventions, outcome measures and models of care in various settings. This session explores the impact of ageism on knowledge, practices and nature of relationships between health care providers and older adults with hearing loss and between staff and their supervisors in long-term care settings as they relate to quality of care of older adults.</p>
12:00pm – 1:00pm	<i>Networking Lunch</i>	
1:00pm – 2:30pm	<p><b>Part II: Universal Hearing Screening: Impact of Stigma and Ageism</b> <i>Moderator:</i> <b>Dr. Dalia Tsimpida</b> <i>Postdoctoral Researcher at the University of Manchester, United Kingdom</i></p> <p>The WHO World Report on Hearing calls for universal hearing screening for older adults, inter-professional task sharing, and innovations in person-centered care consistent with the WHO ICOPE guidelines. However, stigma and ageism, whether explicit or implicit, may act as a barrier to screening uptake and thereby impact the access to care for older people experiencing hearing loss. This session will explore the expression of stigma and</p>	

	ageism within models and methods of hearing and geriatric care, and opportunities to improve access and reduce inequity therein.
1:00pm – 1:15pm	<p><b>Integrating Ear and Hearing Care in Geriatric and Primary Care</b> <b>Prof. Cath McMahon</b> <i>Professor and Director of Audiology, Department of Linguistics, Macquarie University, Australia</i></p> <p>Hearing screening throughout the life course and especially in later life is an essential component of maintaining function and independence and remaining engaged in the community. Integrating ear and hearing care for adults into geriatric and primary care may help to increase access to screening and rehabilitation services for older adults and thereby support active social participation and maintenance functional ability in later life. Flowing from the WHO World Hearing Report and ICOPE guidelines, there is evidence-based guidance available for integrating hearing care within wellness checks within the primary care pathway. Opportunities to evolve the primary care pathway to address inequities and better incorporate hearing screening within existing and new models of care will be explored.</p>
1:15pm – 1:30pm	<p><b>Fostering Equity and Access in Ear and Hearing Care</b> <b>Prof. De Wet Swanepoel</b> <i>Professor of Audiology at the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, University of Pretoria, South Africa</i></p> <p>Stigmatization against older people and individuals with hearing loss, compounded by socioeconomic inequities in low-, middle-, and high-income countries around the globe have a significant impact on the ability for ageing populations to access health care including hearing screening. This session explores ‘high tech, low touch’ solutions to overcome issues of inequity in the case of hearing care towards enabling and empowering individuals to seek ear and hearing care throughout the life course.</p>
1:30pm – 1:45pm	<p><b>Community-based Ear and Hearing Interventions to Improve Access</b> <b>Prof. Carrie Nieman</b> <i>Assistant Professor, Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, and Principal Faculty at the Center for Innovative Care in Aging, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, United States of America</i></p> <p>Current uptake of ear and hearing services is low, but new models of community-based interventions to address hearing care may help reduce barriers for older adults who may experience challenges in accessing existing clinic-based services. This presentation will describe the development, implementation and evaluation of innovative, community-delivered affordable and accessible hearing care.</p>
	Panel Discussion
2:30pm – 3:00pm	Health Break
3:00pm – 4:00pm	<p><b>Part III: Effecting Change within Health Systems to Address Stigma and Ageism</b> <i>Moderator:</i></p>

	<p><b>Prof. Kathy Pichora-Fuller</b> <i>President, International Collegium of Rehabilitative Audiology, Professor Emerita, Department of Psychology, University of Toronto, and Adjunct Professor, Department of Gerontology, Simon Fraser University, Canada</i></p> <p>The impact of social exclusion based on stigma and ageism has a direct influence on individuals' functional ability and autonomy, and also on the development of nations. Conversely, the development of human capital within the context of healthy ageing has undeniable benefits on the global scale. The UN Decade of Healthy Ageing provides a framework for action to improve the lives of older people, with implications for inter-governmental commitments on effecting change in national health policies and practices. Such frameworks can be applied to better integrate ear and hearing care in the healthy ageing agenda, and improve social inclusion policies.</p>
3:00pm – 3:20pm	<p><b>Healthy Ageing Centres as Awareness Hubs</b> <b>Mr. Zeljko Blagojevic</b> <i>Programme Analyst, Population and Development Strategies, Monitoring and Evaluation, United Nations Populations Fund, Bosnia and Herzegovina</i></p> <p>Collaboration between sectors and jurisdictions are essential to heighten awareness of the impact of stigma and ageism beyond laws and regulations and into the everyday environment of older people with hearing loss. Drawing on the UNFPA's ongoing efforts to support Healthy Ageing Centres, this session explores opportunities to create awareness hubs through interdisciplinary advocacy and action.</p>
3:20pm – 3:40pm	<p><b>Strategies and Policies to Improve Social Inclusion Policies and Practices for Older Persons with Hearing Loss</b> <b>Dr. Maitreyi Bordia Das</b> <i>Manager, Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice, World Bank, United States of America</i></p> <p>Social exclusion impacts individuals' participation in community and social life, reducing access to services including for example ear and hearing care. This session explores opportunities for social inclusion of older people living with hearing loss by considering the application of international human rights instruments to address the challenges of multiple vulnerabilities.</p>
	<p>Working Group: Towards a 5-year Action Plan</p> <p>Delegates will identify required steps and set milestones towards achieving recognition of hearing loss as an urgent public health issue requiring policy attention.</p>
4:00pm – 4:30pm	<p><b>Closing Remarks and Next Steps</b> <i>International Federation on Ageing &amp; International Collegium on Rehabilitative Audiology</i></p>