



AudigyCertified™

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# Soundnews

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# OfficeNEWS



Please help us in welcoming the newest addition to the Hearing Health Center team. Dr. Brooke Tudor and her husband, Josh, were blessed with the arrival of Lilian Brooke on April 17, 2013. She was also welcomed by her big brother, Graham, and big sister, Evelyn.

*- All of God's grace in one sweet little face.*

**Q** I've heard that there's a link  
between hearing loss and  
dementia—is this true?

### A: What an important question.

This subject has been in the news quite a bit lately. For years researchers have suspected a connection between hearing loss and dementia, but just this year a study funded by the National Institutes of Health determined that a mild hearing loss of 25 decibels (dB) can increase the development of cognitive problems by 30% to 40%.

When asked for an explanation of the cognitive decline, Frank Lin—Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine otologist and assistant professor, and the study's lead author—offered as possible contributing factors the combination of social isolation and the extra mental effort it takes to understand sounds.

Dementia is on the rise in the U.S. with over 4 million affected by the malady, and recent estimates place the cost on families and society at \$157 billion to \$215 billion a year, making it more expensive than cancer and heart disease.

Hearing should become a regular part of the conversation during general health exams, and regular hearing evaluations the norm, in order to delay the onset of cognitive decline.

While hearing aids aren't a cure for the effects of dementia, appropriately fit hearing technology is designed to alleviate the energy required to understand sounds, and to decrease feelings of isolation by reengaging people with the world around them through better hearing.

Concerned about a loved one's well-being? We encourage you to have their hearing tested as soon as possible. Our staff of AudigyCertified professionals is here to provide comprehensive evaluations, lifestyle-specific technology recommendations, and fine-tuning of hearing devices to ensure a better hearing experience for as long as you are in our care.

Please call us today at 517.580.0428 to schedule an appointment  
for yourself or a loved one. We look forward to serving you.

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