

\$1.28 trillion over 30 years. Compared to current levels of vaccination coverage, increasing coverage was predicted to avert over 33 million cases of disease and greater than \$96 billion in disease-associated costs, with a corresponding increase in vaccination costs of approximately \$83 billion over the entire 30-year time period. Specific examples of cost-effectiveness analyses that assess the epidemiologic and economic impact of vaccination against shingles and pertussis in older adults will be discussed. Part of a symposium sponsored by the Health Behavior Change Interest Group.

## SESSION 7260 (SYMPOSIUM)

### WHO WORLD REPORTS ON HEARING AND VISION: MEETING THE GROWING NEEDS OF OLDER ADULTS

Chair: Carrie Nieman

Co-Chair: Bonnielin Swenor

Discussant: Charlotte Yeh

The World Health Organization's (WHO) World Report on Vision was released in October 2019 and the World Report on Hearing debuted at the World Health Assembly in May 2020. The Reports recognize the fundamental nature of sensory health in the health and well-being of individuals and societies and outline the significant and growing burden of hearing loss and vision impairment across the life course. Together the efforts call for more affordable, accessible, and integrated care to foster sensory health for all and represent a major opportunity to advance vision and hearing care as public health priorities nationally and internationally. With the largest burden of sensory impairment among older adults, this symposium will focus on applying the findings and recommendations of the Reports to gerontology. The first presentations will provide an overview of the World Reports on Vision and Hearing from members of the core working groups involved in the Reports and discuss them within the context of the WHO's Decade of Healthy Aging. The second set of presentations will feature the latest findings related to sensory health from the Global Burden of Disease Study. In moving toward action, task sharing is a critical theme that runs throughout the Reports and we will cover the application of task sharing to hearing care as an example of applying public health principles to advance sensory health. As we advocate for improving the lives of older adults, sensory health remains a significant component with great potential for progress and collaboration.

### WHO WORLD REPORT ON HEARING: IMPLICATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND THE WHO DECADE OF HEALTHY AGING

Carrie Nieman, *Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, United States*

The past 5 years have seen incredible advances in approaching hearing loss as a major public health issue. National efforts include the 2015 President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and the National Academies of Science, Engineering, & Medicine's 2016 Commission on Hearing Health Care for Adults, which led

to the 2017 OTC hearing aid legislation and the expected debut of OTC hearing aids in 2020-2021. The World Report on Hearing amplifies these efforts. This presentation will cover the role of the Report in the context of the rapidly evolving hearing care landscape in the US and how the Report's call for affordable, accessible hearing care fit within current national efforts focused on older adults. Finally, the WHO recognized 2020-2030 as the Decade of Healthy Aging. We will discuss how the World Report on Hearing integrates with broader efforts to support healthy aging locally and globally.

### TASK SHARING IN HEARING CARE: PUTTING PRINCIPLES INTO PRACTICE TO ADVANCE ACCESS TO HEARING CARE

Nicole Marrone,<sup>1</sup> Aileen Wong,<sup>1</sup> Maia Ingram,<sup>2</sup> Rosie Piper,<sup>3</sup> Scott Carvajal,<sup>1</sup> and Sonia Colina,<sup>1</sup>

1. *University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, United States*, 2. *Arizona Prevention Research Center, Tucson, Arizona, United States*, 3. *Mariposa Community Health Center, Nogales, Arizona, United States*

Task sharing, through models such as community health workers (CHWs), is considered an efficacious and cost-effective approach to extending access, addressing disparities, and building capacity. Increasingly, task sharing is recognized as a promising approach within sensory health. This session will share results from an NIH-funded trial of a first-in-kind CHW-delivered intervention along the U.S.-Mexico border. Trained CHWs provided a 5-week group aural rehabilitation program that included education and counseling on age-related hearing loss. A total of 136 Spanish-speaking older adults with hearing loss were randomized. Those in the immediate treatment group reported significantly greater use of communication strategies post-intervention, which was maintained over 1 year. Participants were more likely to report taking action on their hearing at 6 months (OR:1.56, p=0.001) and 1 year (OR:1.82, p=0.001). Building upon lessons learned, including post-intervention focus groups, the presentation will share guiding principles on the application of task sharing to support sensory health.

### WORLD HEALTH REPORT ON VISION: AGING IMPLICATIONS FOR GLOBAL VISION AND EYE HEALTH

Bonnielin Swenor,<sup>1</sup> Varshini Varadaraj,<sup>1</sup> Moon Jeong Lee,<sup>2</sup> Heather Whitson,<sup>3</sup> and Pradeep Ramulu,<sup>4</sup> 1. *Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, United States*, 2. *The Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland, United States*, 3. *Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, United States*, 4. *Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland, United States*

In 2019, the World Health Organization World Report on Vision estimated that that 2.2 billion people have a vision impairment, of which almost half could have been

prevented or is yet to be addressed. As the global population ages and the prevalence of visual impairment increases, inequities in eye care and the downstream health and aging consequences of vision loss will become magnified. This session will: (1) provide key information regarding the burden of eye disease and visual impairment among older adults worldwide; (2) outline a framework created to conceptualize the aging and long-term health implications of vision loss, and (3) discuss the global public health challenges to eye care and to maximizing health for older adults with visual impairments.

#### UPDATES ON HEARING FROM THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE STUDY

Lydia Haile,<sup>1</sup> Aislyn Orji,<sup>2</sup> Paul Briant,<sup>2</sup> Jaimie Adelson,<sup>1</sup> Adrian Davis,<sup>3</sup> and Theo Vos,<sup>2</sup> 1. *University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States*, 2. *Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, Seattle, Washington, United States*, 3. *Imperial College London, London, England, United Kingdom*

Hearing loss is estimated annually as part of the Global Burden of Disease study. In 2019, input data came from 308 surveys in 77 countries. Hearing loss was measured by taking the pure-tone average of audiometric thresholds ranging from .5–4 kHz. We ran severity-specific prevalence models, adjusting the severity for hearing aid use down one level, and separately estimating hearing loss due to meningitis, otitis media, congenital abnormalities, and age-related and other factors. In 2019, 1.5 billion (95% UI=1.5–1.6) people experienced hearing loss, primarily due to age and other factors. Of those with hearing loss, 74% (UI=71–77%) had mild hearing loss and 7% (UI=6–9%) used hearing aids. Globally, age-related hearing loss was the third-ranked cause of Years Lived with Disability after low back pain and migraine. Due to ageing, the hearing loss burden has increased over time, indicating a greater need for hearing healthcare services world-wide.

#### UPDATES ON VISION FROM THE GLOBAL BURDEN OF DISEASE STUDY

Jaimie Adelson,<sup>1</sup> Paul Briant,<sup>2</sup> Seth Flaxman,<sup>3</sup> Hugh Taylor,<sup>4</sup> Serge Resnikoff,<sup>5</sup> Nikolas Reinig,<sup>2</sup> Rupert Bourne,<sup>6</sup> and Theo Vos,<sup>2</sup> 1. *University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States*, 2. *Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, Seattle, Washington, United States*, 3. *Imperial College London, London, England, United Kingdom*, 4. *Melbourne School of*

*Population Health, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia*, 5. *Brien Holden Vision Institute, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia*, 6. *Vision and Eye Research Institute, Cambridge, England, United Kingdom*

The Global Burden of Disease study estimates the prevalence of vision loss by WHO severity group, and the distribution of vision loss due to underlying causes such as cataract, glaucoma, and uncorrected refractive error. Data sources include national and local surveys, and scientific literature, with over 500 sources in 113 countries. Cause-specific prevalence estimates were proportionally fit into estimates of total vision loss by severity. Globally, 821.9 million (95% UI=682.2–970.4) people experienced moderate or worse distance vision loss or near vision loss in 2019 (age-standardized prevalence = 0.10, UI=0.08–0.12). Of these, 41.9 million (UI=36.4–46.8) were blind. The majority of Years Lived with Disability due to vision loss occurred in people with cataract and uncorrected refractive error. Vision loss numbers will continue to increase due to aging populations. Main causes of vision loss are correctable and, therefore, should be major targets of interventions.

#### SESSION 7500 (SYMPOSIUM)

##### POLICY SERIES: ILLUMINATING THE INTERSECTION BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EXPERIENCED EMPLOYEES: CURRENT RESEARCH AND POLICY DIRECTIONS

Chair: Brian Kaskie

Population aging, resulting from the combination of longer life expectancy and lower birthrates, has widespread implications for both employees and employers across the United States. By 2040, age 55-plus workers are projected to account for more than 25 percent of America's workforce. Yet, even though we have gained a better understanding of the needs and preferences of aging workers, we know far less about the organizations which employ them. This symposium presents the latest research concerning: age discrimination in the workplace, intergenerational workplace arrangements, work ability and performance, and the increasingly varied pathways older persons are taking from work to retirement. We also examine how employers have addressed these issues, and consider why one type of employer may be more likely to adopt and implement a policy or program supporting older workers. Panelists then discuss policy alternatives that may increase and expand current employer efforts to support experienced employees.