INTRODUCTION

Ototoxic medications and chemical agents in the workplace can put individuals' hearing and vestibular health at risk for permanent injury. Proactive ototoxicity management (OtoM) strategies aim to minimize exposure, avoid onset of symptoms, provide ongoing monitoring, and manage auditory and vestibular changes as the clinical needs of the patient evolve. During a 2021 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Special Interest Groups Open House, members of the International Ototoxicity Management Group discussed how best to integrate OtoM into routine clinical practice, what tools to use, and what special considerations need to be understood to best support patients and their families. Here, we have summarized their viewpoints to encourage widespread adoption of improved OtoM services for at-risk individuals. The field of audiology needs to move to a place where we better understand the full extent of ototoxicity and can agree on expanding minimum guidelines that can be implemented more universally to mitigate, detect, and manage the damage from ototoxic exposures. Only recently has our field seen a therapeutic drug that can protect against ototoxicity; however, the population served is restricted only to children receiving treatment for nonmetastatic carcinoma. This is hopefully just the beginning of future therapeutic interventions to come, but, in the meantime, ototoxicity resulting from other medications in different patient populations and chemical agents persists.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be able to:

- Summarize your role as an audiologist as part of a multidisciplinary care team with the goal of optimizing auditory health for those at risk for ototoxicity

CONTENTS


PROGRAM HISTORY and IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Start date: February 5, 2024
End date: February 5, 2029

To earn continuing education credit, you must complete the learning assessment on or before February 5, 2029.
This course is offered for 0.10 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional area).