

The Emerging Hearing Medicines Landscape Webinar Series

Unanswered questions

As relevant, this document will provide speaker's answers to questions asked during the Emerging Hearing Medicines Landscapes webinar series that were not addressed during the webinars due to time constraints. This document will be regularly updated.

Questions from webinar 1: Addressing an Unmet Need

How effective is neurofeedback in treating tinnitus?

There have been some interesting studies on this, and the early results look promising. Neurofeedback is a topic that deserves more development, and research is underway.

How will aids like hearing aids and implants compare to therapeutic drugs? Is this known or is there a level that the medicine research is aiming for?

When drugs to treat tinnitus are in clinical trials they are compared with 'standard of care' and that includes hearing aids and auditory implants. Future treatment strategies may look at combining hearing technology and drug treatments. As indicated in the webinar, there is no 'one size fits all' treatment that is envisaged, and there will always be a variety of options.

Many of the people that I support who have hearing loss cannot afford private health care, do you believe that the things discussed would be available on the NHS at some point?

The NHS has an excellent system for evaluating treatments by cost and efficacy, called the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE). For example, [NICE has just published a review of treatments for tinnitus](#). when new treatments for hearing loss are available, I would expect them to be reviewed by NICE, and if clinical efficacy and cost-effectiveness can be demonstrated, for the to be available on the NHS.