

**Introduction:** Hearing loss caused by exposure to noise results in a devastating disability that is virtually preventable. Noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) is the most common form of sensorineural hearing deficit, after presbycusis. In many industrialized countries, noise levels in the work place are regularly measured and the number of individuals exposed to hazardous noise levels estimated.

This study was set to identify the determinants of noise-induced hearing loss among factory workers.

**Objectives:** The objectives of the study included; establishing the prevalence of NIHL; the degree of NIHL among workers; the socio-demographic factors and work-facility factors associated with NIHL. The study was a cross-sectional study among 95 workers at Roofings factory who were chosen using systematic sampling. A questionnaire was used as a data collection tool to obtain data from the respondents.

The prevalence of NIHL was found to be low among the workers at 8%. However, the degree to which NIHL occurred among the workers was moderate. The socio-demographic factors associated with NIHL were sex ( $p=0.001$ ), the level of education of the workers (0.024), exposure to other noise sources rather than at work (0.015), having worked in the welding and milling factory prior to joining the factory (0.021) and limited use of hearing protection devices ( $p=0.042$ ). The work-facility factors associated with NIHL included duration of working at the facility ( $p=0.028$ ), section where the workers worked, duration of work shifts ( $p=0.004$ ) and working extra shifts and over time ( $p=0.004$ ).

All stakeholders such as the government, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labor, factory administration and workers should take collective responsibility in preventing NIHL by using hearing protective gear and reducing the intensity of noise generated during production.