### Mayo Clinic Minute

**When older adults need a hearing exam**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>VIDEO</th>
<th>AUDIO</th>
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<td>If it's getting harder to hear conversations – including the ones on TV –</td>
<td><strong>Sound of a television program</strong></td>
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<td>... it might be time to see an audiologist.</td>
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**Title:**
GRETA STAMPER, Au.D., Ph.D.
AUDIOLOGY
Mayo Clinic

In general, the recommendation is around the age of 50, to have just a preventative hearing screen – sooner if you notice you are having difficulty.

Dr. Greta Stamper is an audiologist at Mayo Clinic. She says one difficulty, in particular, tends to finally get patients into her office.

They realize they are not understanding their grandchildren. Or, they miss something that one of their grandkids said.

Dr. Stamper says, if an exam does reveal a problem, a hearing aid may be the recommended remedy.

A lot of people think that, “Oh, I’m still able to hear something; that means that I don’t need hearing aids yet.” But, the thing is that hearing aids can provide a lot of benefit, even when you still do have a good amount of usable hearing.

It’s a small piece of technology that can have a big impact, whether you’re watching your favorite show or talking to your grandchild.

**Graphic:**
newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org

For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Jeff Olsen.