

## **Abstract EFAS/DGA 2007**

### **Musicians and music-induced hearing disorders**

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Musicians, sound technicians and several other occupational groups within the music and entertainment industry are special with regard to hearing, since normal auditory function is essential for their professional activities. A hearing disorder may have devastating consequences for their continued professional life. Prevention of hearing disorders is therefore of fundamental importance. This report is based on a literature review regarding hearing disorders among musicians and other professionals in the music industry.

Risks for hearing loss has been assessed both through studies of temporary hearing loss, TTS, and permanent loss, PTS. Equivalent sound pressure levels in the range 90-95 dB during a single concert typically give rise to TTS of 5 dB or more. Most studies show no or small differences in PTS among musicians compared to relevant reference data bases after control for age. Tinnitus and hyperacusis are reported significantly more often among musicians than in reference groups. Use of hearing protectors, choice and placement of electro-acoustic equipment, design of room acoustics, and use of acoustic screens are means that may reduce the risk for hearing disorders.

