

Basic Information on Hearing Health

National Association of Schools of Music

Performing Arts Medicine Association

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. Organizations

NASM, founded in 1924, is an organization of schools, conservatories, colleges and universities with approximately 641 accredited institutional members. It establishes national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and other credentials and is the national music school accrediting agency. NASM also provides information to potential students and parents, consultations, statistical information, professional development; and policy analysis.

PAMA, founded in 1989, is an organization comprised of dedicated medical professionals, artists, educators, and administrators with the common goal of improving the health care of the performing artist. Members of PAMA are professionals in fields that include research, education, and clinical practice who hail from all corners of the globe.

2. Disclaimers

- a. NASM and PAMA are providing this web resource for institutions that teach music to assist local consideration and action about hearing health.
- b. The information:
 - is generic, presentational, and advisory in character.
 - is oriented far more to musicians and lay persons than to medical, scientific, or research professionals concerned with hearing health.
 - does not substitute for the professional judgments of medical and other professionals working in their areas of documented expertise.
 - is not to be considered as professional advice or to be used as a basis for the medical treatment of specific individuals.
 - does not supersede present and future empirical research that may confirm, contradict, expand, or change the medical or other information provided here at any point in time.
 - in no way serves as the basis for the accreditation function of NASM or as an addition to the accreditation standards and procedures of NASM. (A [Handbook](#) containing standards and a set of [Membership Procedures](#) are published separately by NASM.)

- is not an endorsement of the reference materials listed or cited; nor does it represent an endorsement of other opinions, methods, or approaches described in the text.
- c. Health and safety depend in large part on the personal decisions of informed individuals. Institutions have health and safety responsibilities, but fulfillment of these responsibilities can and will not ensure any specific individual's health and safety. Too many factors beyond any institution's control are involved. Individuals have a critically important role and each is personally responsible for avoiding risk and preventing injuries to themselves before, during, and after study or employment at any institution. This set of advisory information on hearing health and institutional actions taken under their influence or independently do not alter or cancel any individual's personal responsibility, or in any way shift personal responsibility for the results of any individual's personal decisions in any instance or over time to any institution, or to NASM, or to PAMA.

3. Acknowledgements

NASM and PAMA acknowledge with gratitude the efforts of the many past and present professionals in various medical, research, and music-related fields who developed the scientific and practical information summarized in this set of resources. They express appreciation to the members of PAMA, NASM, and the American Academy of Audiology who made comments and suggestions on drafts of this and other documents in this Web resource.

4. Reproduction of this Resource for Institutional Use

These hearing health resources are not copyrighted. They may be reproduced in whole or in part in the interest of education and institutional development. These resources may be edited to fit the local needs of departments, schools, or institutions. Any organization or institution may reproduce the documents in quantities sufficient for its own use, but not for sale. Notice of credit to NASM and PAMA should appear on all versions of these resources, both original and as edited for local use.