## HEARING LOSS & Cardiovascular Disease

- Research indicates that poor cardiovascular health affects both the peripheral and central auditory systems.
- Damaged blood vessels and a reduction in blood flow to the inner ear may be responsible for an increased risk of hearing loss in patients with cardiovascular disease.
  - Hearing loss is 54% more likely in people with heart disease than in those without cardiovascular problems.



Source: Torre, P., et al. (2005) The association between cardiovascular disease and cochlear function in older adults. Journal of Speech-Language-Hearing Research, 48(2): 473-81.