

ABSTRACT

The thesis is focused on the relationship between hearing impairment and fatigue in everyday life. The theoretical part first introduces the topic of hearing impairment and fatigue separately, and then connects these two aspects and introduces current knowledge and studies that deal with the issue of fatigue in people with hearing impairment. The theoretical findings are followed by a practical section describing research that aims to analyse and reflect on the impact of hearing impairment on everyday fatigue in people with hearing impairment. To achieve this aim, a qualitative research design inspired by the international research of Holman et al. (2019) was used – in this respect, despite various limitations based primarily on the thesis's specifics, we attempted to replicate the international research. Our research consisted of conducting six semi-structured interviews ($n = 6$) with adult individuals with varying degrees of hearing loss. All interviews were subsequently analysed using thematic analysis. The results of the research bring several findings – perceived everyday fatigue related to hearing loss is a highly individual matter and manifests itself in most (but not all) respondents to varying degrees. Hearing impairment-related fatigue can result from increased hearing effort or exposure to excessive auditory noise. The effect of hearing aids on everyday fatigue is perceived very differently – there are opinions, that hearing aids increase or decrease fatigue, or have no effect at all. However, the most of respondents do not perceive any major limitations or changes associated with their hearing impairment in their daily-life and are already adapted to their hearing impairment.