

## Abstract

- 1 in 6 Australians live with hearing loss.
- Half of the population are from diverse ethnic backgrounds,
- Hearing loss is more common among diverse ethnic communities, yet there are low levels of hearing service uptake.
- We interviewed Australian adults from diverse ethnic communities to identify:
  - Key factors influencing access to and use of hearing services
  - What they would like from hearing care professionals

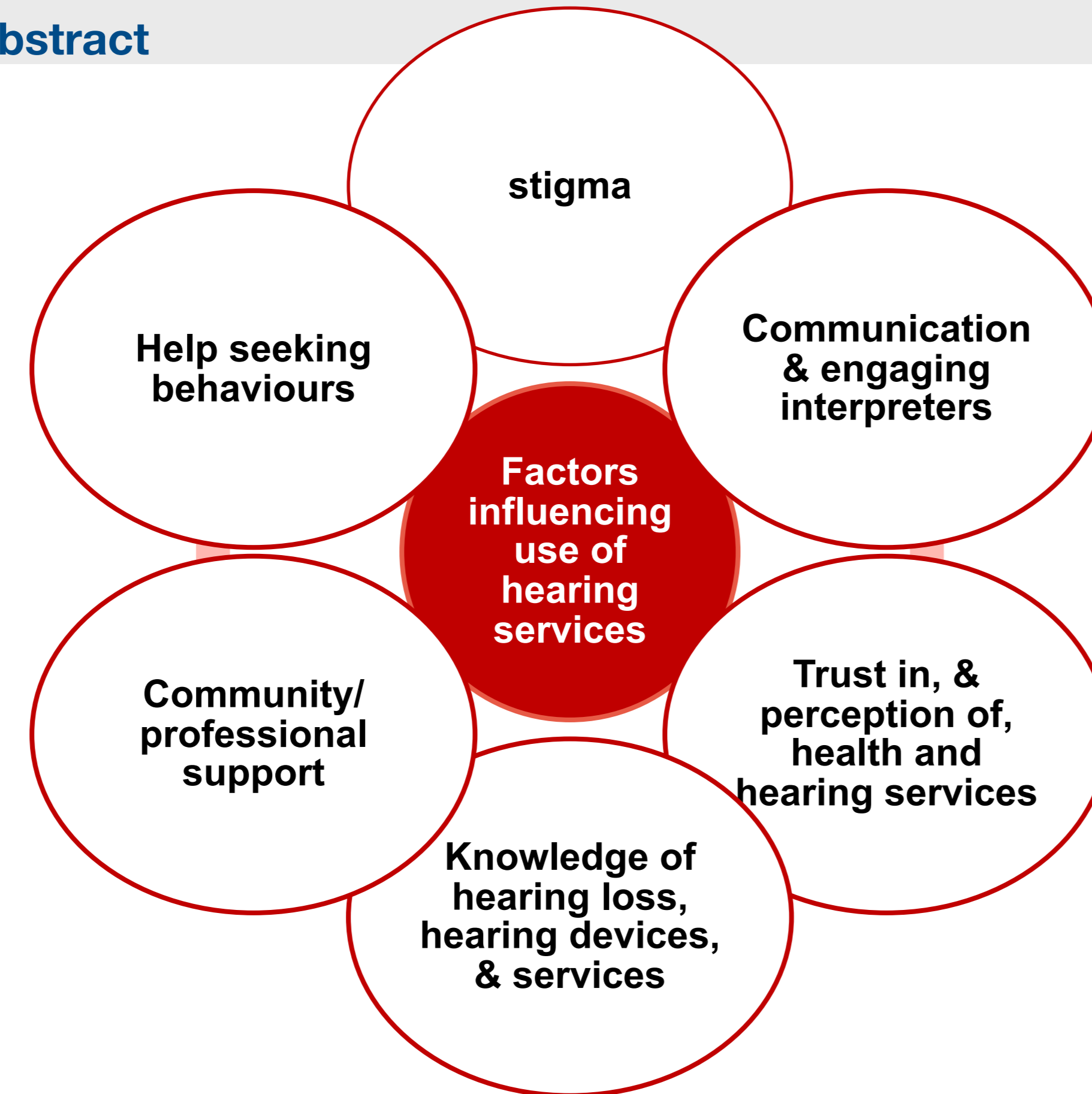


Figure 1. Themes: Factors influencing accessibility and use of hearing services for people from diverse ethnic communities in Australia

## Résultats

Participants identified several factors impacting the accessibility and use of hearing services (Figure 1) and desired culturally responsive behaviours by hearing care professionals (Figure 2)



Figure 2. Desirable behaviours for hearing care professionals from perspectives of Australian ethnic communities

## Objectifs

- To explore the factors that influence access to and use of hearing services among adults from diverse ethnic communities in Australia.
- To identify the most important culturally responsive behaviours by hearing care professionals from the perspectives of diverse ethnic communities in Australia.

## Conclusion

Increasing accessibility and use of hearing care services requires:

- addressing stigma of hearing loss and lack of trust to healthcare
- increasing knowledge about impact and treatment of hearing loss among ethnic communities
- improving culturally responsiveness of hearing services

## Méthodes et Matériels

- Semi-structured interviews with 31 individuals who spoke a language other than English at home:
  - 19 adults with hearing loss
  - 12 family members of adults with hearing loss.
- Inductive thematic analysis.

## Références

- Dawes P, et al. (2024) Developing strategies to improve accessibility of hearing health services for people from diverse ethnic communities in Australia: Research Protocol. Figshare.
- Choi, J. et al. (2018). Prevalence of hearing loss and hearing care use among Asian Americans. *Otology & Neurotology*, 39(2).
- Dawes, P. et al. (2014). Hearing in middle age: a population snapshot of 40-69 year olds in the UK. *Ear and hearing*, 35(3).

