Interventions to Increase Hearing Protective Device Use in Youth Who Live or Work on Farms

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12:35 – 1:25 pm
Clark Memorial Library Learning Lab

Dr. Sherman is an assistant professor in the SSU Department of Nursing. She earned her B.S.N. from the University of Kentucky, her M.S.N. from the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing, and her D.N.P. from West Virginia University. She has taught at SSU since 2007 and her research interests include: agricultural occupational health and wellness, rural public health, and pediatric health promotion and injury prevention.

Presentation Summary:
How can nurses be educated about health promotion relevant to farming communities affected by noise-induced hearing loss? Background noise induced hearing loss represents a significant risk factor for injury, disability and death in agricultural populations due to an inability to receive sensory information that can indicate dangerous situations. Despite the availability of hearing protection devices, rates of utilization remain low, while rates of noise-induced hearing loss are high within the agricultural youth population. Dr. Sherman reviews three studies about the creation of effective interventions to increase hearing protection device use and briefly discusses how nurses, working with youth, families, schools, and community partnerships can facilitate the dissemination of hearing protection information.