

Hearing Care Technician

A Blended Training program in Africa as part of
a systemic change

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Kentalis

Cape Town, 27-10-2018



Royal Dutch Kentalis

is a national organization in the Netherlands that has for the last **228 years** specialized in:

providing **diagnostics, care and educational services** for people who

- are deaf or hard of hearing
- have speech difficulties
- are deafblind

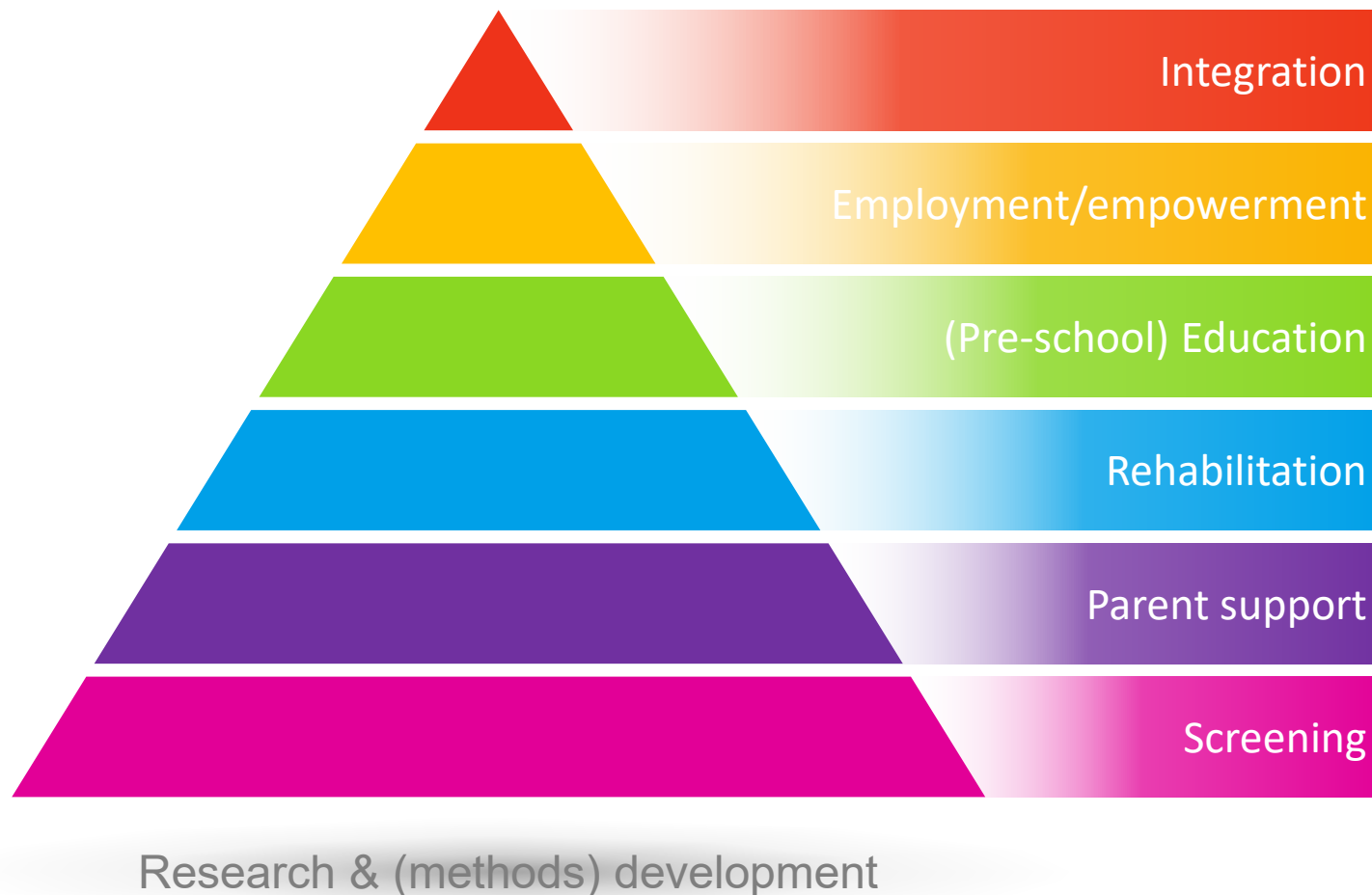
Sometimes in combination with an intellectual disability, autism spectrum disorder and/or motor difficulties.





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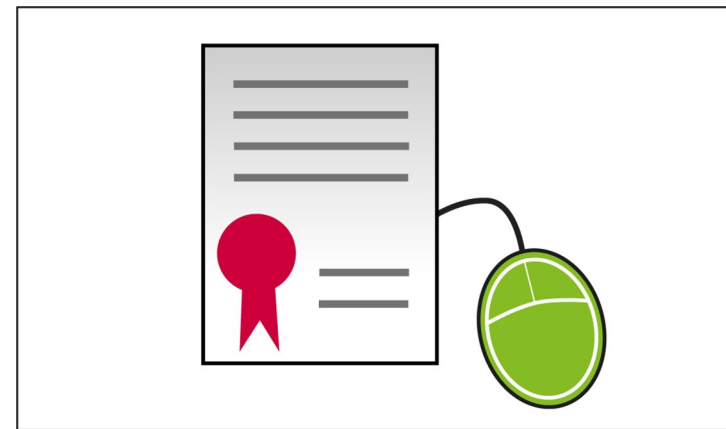
Kentalis strategy





Challenges in Africa

- Screening and early diagnostics
- Rehabilitation
- Training of professionals
recognition of their jobs
- Affordable hearing aids
- Access for clients to services and education
- Communication barriers
- Stigma on deafness
- Possibilities to buy abroad
- Availability of trainers
- Dissemination over the country





Holistic approach

- Multiple stakeholders are involved and need to work together in a chain
- Focus on system change instead of isolated initiatives
- Ownership and responsibility with local partners
- Create business and employment opportunities
- Make maximum use of local expertise
- Trainings broader than only 'technical' content also filekeeping, counseling, management and business skills
- Regional linking with other institutions
- Quality standard





The HCT course

- Theory available online (www.e-kentalis.org)
- Fully equipped skills labs in the three countries
- 1,5 year diploma course starting in 2019
- 5 weeks of face-to-face training by local experts
- Can be done by full time as well as part time students
- Training materials are CPD certified





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Partners HCT



Archbishop Mihayo University College of Tabora
Tanzania



Hawassa University Medical College in Ethiopia

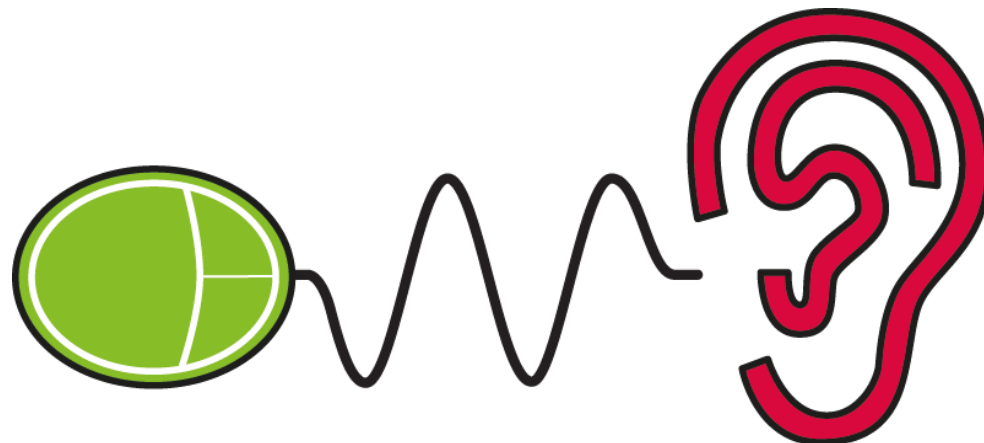


Uganda Institute of Allied Health and
Management Sciences Uganda



Challenges for HCT

- Capacity for internships
- Time constraint for part-time students
- Large investments for a relative small group
- Official recognition of the profession of HCT
- HCT's in education settings?
- Job opportunities / businesses
- ...





Opportunities for HCT

- With the developed program easy to embark in other countries (Kenya?)
- Hearing aid companies are willing to invest in Africa but need qualified professionals
- Can make a living out of this while providing services to the community
- The courses can attract students from the wider region participating institutes can become a Hub for teaching the practical lessons
- Through regional network possibility of starting necessary degree courses (now impossible for one country)



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Together ...



... We Can

Thank you for your attention.

www.e-kentalis.org

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