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Jo Ann Wood, MA, CFA

Inside this issue:

What First-Time Hearing Aid Users Need to Know pg 1

Summer Hearing Aid Care pg 1

Upcoming Events pg 2

Baha—When Hearing Aids Aren't Enough Pa- pg 2

Testimonials pg 2

Ask the Expert pg 2

About Us pg 2

Peconic Ear Nose Throat & Facial Plastic Surgery

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2

JULY 2008

What First-Time Hearing Aid Users Need to Know

New, digital-technology hearing aids offer more features than ever before. They also offer the most natural sound quality available. While hearing aids will allow you to enjoy life more, there's also a period of adjustment that may be frustrating at times. Hearing aids take some getting used to, but by knowing what to expect, you should be acclimated in no time!

NEW SOUNDS Not only do your ears need to get used to understanding the new sounds, but your brain does too. The sounds you hear may seem unnatural and overwhelming for the first few days because of this. If the sounds you hear are painful or confusing, there may be something wrong with your aid and you should call your audiologist as soon as possible.

SOMETHING IN THE EAR It definitely takes some time to

get used to having something in your ear. The most important thing is that the hearing aids fit well. If the earmold of a behind-the-ear model or the shell of an in-the-ear model does not fit tightly in the ear canal, the hearing aid may whistle.

HEARING YOUR OWN VOICE While first wearing hearing aids, you may think your voice sounds unnatural. It also takes time getting used to sounds like chewing, and the feeling of having "plugged" ears. With the latest technological advances, we are able to alleviate a lot of these complaints over time,, allowing your experience to be positive and rewarding.

BE PATIENT Getting used to hearing aids takes time. For millions of people, the results are worth the effort!



Photo courtesy of Phonak

Phonak offers a new and innovative technology that offers • full performance • discreet design • automatic system with best clarity in all situations including background noise • bluetooth compatibility • sophisticated noise suppression and whistle block technology • **and more!** Call us to schedule a free demonstration!

Receive
\$200 OFF a set of
PHONAK Exélia or Naída digital
hearing instruments.
Offer ends 9/30/08

Summer Hearing Aid Care

Summer brings with it warm weather, lazy days on the beach—as well as an increase in hearing aid troubles. Moisture is the culprit for many hearing aid related problems. Excessive moisture due to high humidity and sweat can cause distortion, static and a host of other problems. To help avoid the time and expense of a manufacturer repair, follow these preventative maintenance techniques:

- Open the battery door at night to allow air to cir-

culate and dry

- Consider the purchase of a hearing aid dehumidifier. These are simple to use and can extend the life of your hearing aids
- If you perspire heavily during summer activities, take a moment to remove your aids and wipe off excess moisture with a tissue
- If you wear behind-the-ear aids, consider wearing a moisture guard
- Do not leave your aids in

direct sunlight

- Avoid storing your aids in the glove compartments or similar environments where excessive heat can build up
- If the aid isn't working and you think it's due to moisture, open the battery door, remove the battery and let it dry in an area with good circulation. Don't use a blow-dryer or the microwave—moisture will usually evaporate on it's own.

We're on the web at
www.peconic-ent.com

Upcoming Events

- **Seminar: Improve Your Quality of Life Through Better Hearing:** John Wesley Village Senior Center, Wednesday July 16th, 11:00am— Presented by Dr. Barbara Prestano
- **Monthly Free Hearing Screenings**—Riverhead Library—Last Wednesday of each month from 10:00am—12:00pm
- **Peconic Landing—Free Hearing Aid Clinic**—First Wednesday of every month by appointment

Peconic Ear Nose Throat and Facial Plastic Surgery is the largest ENT practice on the eastern end of Long Island. Our highly trained, professional staff provides excellent quality care and service to our patients. Our physicians are trained specialists in the areas of the ears, nose and throat and also Facial Plastic Surgery. Our Audiologists are highly qualified to provide the best care and service for those with hearing and balance problems, and those with hearing aids, or who are thinking about using hearing aids. We offer the latest in technology, including the Baha implantable hearing device.

ASK THE EXPERT

Q: What makes new technology better than my current hearing aid?
A: New technology is remarkable! We can now help you to hear better than ever before, **EVEN IN NOISY SITUATIONS!!** Current technology offers sophisticated noise suppression, whistle block and now Bluetooth Compatibility! All in a cosmetically appealing design! My patients actually tell me they **LOVE** their hearing aids! **Barbara A. Prestano, Au.D. Director of Audiology**

Baha—When Hearing Aids Aren't Enough

We hear naturally in two ways, air conduction and bone conduction. Baha is an implantable bone conduction device that sends sound vibrations directly to the inner ear via bone. If your outer or middle ear is blocked or damaged, or if you have one ear that does not function at all, the Baha can be very effective.

Instead of sending sound through the damaged areas of the ear, the Baha sends it directly through bone, naturally stimulating the inner ear. While conventional air and bone conduction hearing aids provide a satisfactory solution for some people, they are not always suitable for people with certain types of hearing loss. If you struggle with one of the prob-



lems mentioned above, you might be a candidate for the Baha Hearing System. Contact us to find out more. A unique feature of this system is that potential candidates can test a non-implantable version prior to surgery. Most people are amazed at how much better they are able to hear as well as the quality and clarity of sound provided. Call us today to have **a free demonstration!**

Testimonials

Cochlear Corp.

"I can go to church now and hear the pastor. I'm planning a cruise. I went dancing for the first time in years. And I can hear the frogs croaking in the rain."

-Paul, a Baha Recipient

"My life has changed so much and I am a much happier person! I don't feel so out of touch when people are talking. I can hear now! It's an unbelievable difference."

-Linda, a Baha Recipient

"It has transformed my life!"

-Denise, a Baha Recipient

"I can hear everything. It has been a life-changing thing!"

-Dave, a Baha Recipient