



The Care and Use of a Hearing Aid

1. Batteries:
 - a. Different types of hearing aids use different batteries. Use only the battery type for your hearing aid.
 - b. Use fresh batteries. The life of a battery will vary with users, depending on the type of hearing aid fitted and how many hours a day the instrument is used and the power requirements of the aid.
 - c. If quality of speech seems poor, try another battery. Find out how long a battery should last, and throw it away one day before it is supposed to expire. A battery does not have to be dead to be beyond its useful life.
 - d. Keep extra batteries on hand.
 - e. Unwanted and unexpected noises may be caused by a defective battery.
 - f. Never let batteries touch coins, keys, metal or each other. Always store them in their container.

2. Daily Care & Cleaning:
 - a. Check the earmold on your behind-the-ear style aid or the receiver tube on your in-the-ear style aid to be sure it does not become clogged with wax.
 - b. Do not use alcohol to clean the earmold; this will damage your earmold or hearing aid case.
 - c. Feedback occurs when the amplified sound leaks out of the ear canal around the earmold and goes back through the microphone of the hearing aid and is re-amplified. The majority of hearing aids will whistle if the volume is too high. Feedback may also occur if the earmold or tubing is cracked or not fitting properly.
 - d. Hats, scarves and wigs worn over hearing aids may cause whistling. If you cup your hand over your hearing aid or hold the telephone in the wrong position, your hearing aid may whistle.
 - e. If aids or earmold are no longer fitting, due to changes over time, a new mold or case should be made.
 - f. For best performance, stiff, cracked or discolored tubing should be replaced on behind-the-ear aids.

3. Troubleshooting your hearing aid:
 - a. Check the battery:
 - i. Is battery dead?
 - ii. Is battery corroded?
 - iii. Is it the correct size?
 - iv. Is it inserted properly?

 - b. Check the controls
 - i. Pay particular attention to the on-off telephone switch. The "T" switch is only appropriate for telephone use.

 - c. Check the earmold and tubing
 - i. Make sure they are free of wax or moisture "bubbles" in the tube.
 - ii. Check tubing for cracks or breaks.

***Optional Accidental Loss and Damage Insurance** is available for all of our patients. It is strongly recommended when children are fit with hearing aids. Ask your audiologist for more details.

***Battery Purchase:** Hearing aid batteries are available for our patients. They may be obtained at our Audiology reception window during regular business hours. No appointment necessary.