

The top 10 hearing aid myths

Myth #1 – Hearing aids make people look old

There are many different types of hearing devices available, from those that fit directly inside the ear canal to those that sit discretely behind the ear. They are also available in modern colours and shapes, dispelling everyone's conception of what a hearing device should look like. There are hearing devices that appear very similar to your Bluetooth cell phone device! Some hearing devices even allow you to connect wirelessly to your cell phone, personal computer, MP3 music player, or other Bluetooth-enabled devices.

Myth #2 – Hearing aids whistle and make noises

Feedback is less of an issue in the digital age. The issue of feedback is affected by the type of device chosen, the shape of your ear canal, the fit of the device, etc. Most hearing aids come with automatic feedback reduction and other automated features. There is a lot of technology in a very small package!

Myth #3 – Hearing aids make my own voice sound funny

Whenever someone hears their own voice recorded, they don't believe that is what they sound like – but it is what the rest of us hear! To eliminate the feeling of a "stuffy ear," the majority of hearing aid manufacturers have created devices with an "open fit" design. The hearing

device microphone sits behind the ear with a small tube going into the ear canal. This reduces the sensation of a "stuffy ear" and a funny sounding voice!

Myth #4 – You have to buy batteries all the time and change them and they're expensive

Hearing aid manufacturers are continually releasing new devices that deliver more features, more convenience, improved sound quality, improved hearing comfort, and improved wearing comfort. This all requires power! However, batteries are not expensive and are easy to load. Depending upon the type of device chosen and the size of battery it runs on, you can expect anywhere from three to 15 days battery life!

Myth #5 – You can't play golf with a hearing aid

People with this complaint are actually talking about the annoyance from the sound of the wind blowing through their hearing devices. Many of today's higher end devices are programmed to try to detect wind noise and reduce it electronically. This is important for anyone who enjoys outdoor activities!

Myth #6 – You can't get hearing aids wet

While it's true that you do not want to wash your hearing aids or swim or bathe with them on, some devices are available that are more moisture resistant so that they can handle a little sweat during your morning jog and will not short circuit!

Myth #7 – Hearing aids always need to be adjusted

Many hearing devices available today make automatic adjustments depending upon the environment, so you are not constantly fiddling with the volume control every time you move to another sound environment. Digital technology has al-

lowed engineers to develop systems that detect changes in sound levels and adjust themselves automatically. For those who want a manual volume control, however, that option is still available.

Myth #8 – Hearing aids are just sound amplifiers

Hearing device designers are building in more automated features – features that detect different sound scenes and address them – in order to make wearing a hearing device as natural of an experience as possible. This means *selective* amplification of sound based on programs within the device and your personal preference settings. Many devices now contain technology referred to as data-logging that allows the hearing device to log what has and has not been used – making it easier for your audiologist to make changes to the programming based on your preferences.

Myth #9 – Hearing aids cost too much

It is a fact that hearing devices are not cheap. Like anything, the size, technology, and range of features within the hearing device affect the cost. There are a range of features and prices available.

Myth #10 – Hearing aids can't help me

Hearing devices can help with any degree of hearing loss, from mild through to more severe losses. If you suspect hearing difficulties, the first step is to go for a hearing test. Even if your hearing is normal, having a baseline hearing test is a valuable tool for future comparison and is important for your medical records. If you are diagnosed with hearing loss, talk to your audiologist about everything from lifestyle to budget to different hearing device options in order to determine which is best suited for you!

Information supplied by Professional Audiology Clinic.



Athena Home - Body Spa

Certified & Insured

Choose A
**Mother's Day
Pamper Package**
for **\$99.99**
Promotion Starts
May 1st - 15th, 2008

Delight Her Senses

- Soothing Massage from Head to Toes with a Silky hydrating Moisturizer
- Delicious Strawberry/Vanilla Milk Aromatic Foot Soak
- Dead Sea Salt Scrub for Feet

Stress Relief

- Relax her senses with Soft Music, Amber candle light.
- Enticing Scalp, facial, & Swedish Body Massage
- Foot & Hand Reflexology

Detoxify

- Relax the muscles in a soothing warm Infrared Sauna
- Stimulating Ginger & Mandarin Spice Foot Soak - Exfoliating Brown Sugar foot Scrub
- Hydrating Body Cream enriched with Vitamin C
- Swedish Body Massage

Relax, Renew, Rejuvenate

For appointments call:
Patricia RMT 780-983-5264
Serving Leduc & Edmonton Surrounding Area