### HEARCARE Newsletter

#### WHEN HEARING AIDS AREN'T ENOUGH

Today's prescriptive hearing aids use some pretty amazing Artificial Intelligence. They can sense your environment and change automatically to give you your best hearing in each situation. However, some environments are a challenge no matter how sophisticated your hearing aids are.

Most people with hearing loss find background noise to be their biggest challenge. This can include restaurants, social gatherings, small groups, outdoor activities, watching TV, or even speaking on the phone. Your hearing aids may offer settings which reduce background noise or help enhance the speech, but there may be times when that is not enough. In those situations we recommend hearing device accessories.

One accessory you are probably familiar with is your smart phone. Most hearing aids now offer Bluetooth connectivity to Android or Apple phones (some restrictions apply). You can use this connection to stream phone calls, music, or videos. This enhances the clarity and makes using your phone much easier and more enjoyable.

### WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Monthly Article
- Upcoming Events
- Dear Dr. HearCare
- Support Local



You can also have an app on your phone which allows you to make some adjustments to your hearing aids settings, like a remote control.

Another popular accessory is a TV connecter. This devices enhances the TV sound quality by streaming the sound directly into your hearing aids. This is great for couples who may want to watch the TV at different volumes (or not watch at all!).

A third accessory that provides a variety of ways to help make listening easier is the Roger devices. When a situation becomes more challenging than the hearing aids can handle, the Roger devices can provide a large boost in clarity over the noise. This is called a signal-to-noise ratio.

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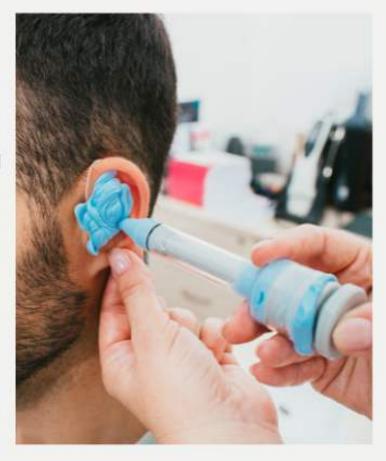
## Dear Dr. Hear Care

### SHOULD I WEAR EARMOLDS?

You may have heard people talk about wearing an earmold with their hearing aids and wondered, "Is this something I need?"

Earmolds are custom made earpieces that attach to your behind the ear (BTE or RIC) style hearing aids. They are used in replacement of domes (the soft rubber tips) or attached to tubing.

Typically, earmolds are best suited for individuals with a significant amount of hearing loss who need a lot of power from their hearing aids. Earmolds can also be a good choice when the traditional domes don't fit well in your ear.



Your provider will take an impression of your ears and have a custom form made to fit you. This helps with comfort, retention, reducing feedback, and providing more sound.

Not every hearing aid user requires an earmold. Many people do very well with the standard domes which come in several shapes and sizes. If you have been struggling with the fit or sound quality, ask your audiologist about earmolds.

Do you have a question we can answer?

Email Dr. HearCare at:

info@myhearcare.com

Business Spotlight
Support Locally Owned Businesses

Music Compound caters to all ages, any level, and all genres.

Lessons are available in person or online. Our goal is to turn your musical dream into reality. Our teaching method is holistic and catered to each student.

Music Compound is performances based and offers its members the opportunity to showcase their skills every month on stage. They also offer songwriting workshops and jam sessions for adults wanting to connect with like-minded individuals.





Call our studio to learn more. 941.379.9100. Serving Sarasota and Manatee Counties with two locations.

Write A
REVIEW

We want to hear from you! Let us know how your experience with HearCare has impacted your life and share that with others who are looking for their next step on the journey to better hearing.







# Upcoming Events



#### DONNA SHOTWELL, O.D., P.A.

#### **RSVP**

Limited seats available, so contact us to reserve your spot today!

- **©** 941-316-0406
- info@myhearcare.com
- 2800 Hillview St. Sarasota, FL 34239

#### COMMUNITY DOCTOR SPOTLIGHT

Join us with our guest speaker, Donna Shotwell, DO. She will be speaking on Dry Eye and her innovative treatment options. Keep an eye out for more information and how to register to attend.

Thursday, January 12th 10:00 - 11:00 Sarasota Office

### TOPIC: CHRONIC DRY EYE

Dry eye syndrome refers to a bréakdown in the quantity or quality of tears to moisten, cleanse and protect the eyes. This is significant because, with each blink, tears protect the surface of the eye, washing away dust and microorganisms. When this protective coating dries up, the eyes may feel "gritty" or burn and can be more sensitive to light. In extreme cases, vision can be blurred. Proper care will not only increase your comfort - it will protect your eyes. Your eye care provider can perform a series of tests to determine if you have dry eyes.

The Roger devices uses FM signal to connect to your hearing aids. This allows the sound that the Roger picks up from its microphone to go directly to your hearing aids and significantly improve the signal-to-noise ratio so you can hear more clearly even in noisy environments.

The Roger device can be used as a personal microphone for one-on-one conversation, like in the car, at a restaurant, or in a meeting. It can also be used on the table to pick up conversation from a small group. At a larger gathering or an outdoor event you can use the Roger in pointer mode which allows you to focus the microphones in the direction you want to listen and boost the signal.

Although the Roger device is made by Phonak, it can work with non-Phonak brand hearing aids too! There a few varieties of Roger, so be sure to speak to your provider about which Roger device or other accessories would work best for you.

Check out this Cliff Olson Video for more information on improving speech clarity.

# Give The Gift of Better Hearing



Your donations are needed to help provide hearing devices to wonderful people both locally and globally. Trade in your gently used devices when you upgrade to new technology.

And did you know that a portion of every hearing device purchase through HearCare goes directly to our non profit, Hearing The Call-Sarasota? Getting your best hearing helps someone get theirs too.