

## Hearing Aids Improve Quality of Life

A review of the literature published in the scientific report “Evaluation of the Social and Economic Costs of Hearing Impairment” concludes that hearing loss can lead to loneliness, depression and low self esteem. It can affect family and other close relationships. When compared to their normal hearing peers, individuals with hearing impairment were found to have poorer health, increased psychiatric disturbances and to be more socially isolated.

When reviewing the benefits of hearing aids it was found that hearing aids provide a significant improvement in the quality of life of the user. Most individuals who own hearing aids are either satisfied or very satisfied with them.

They concluded that despite the improvements to hearing aid technology people are not taking advantage of the possible life changing benefits of these devices with less than 1 in 5 people in the US who could benefit from amplification actually wearing a hearing aid.

## Why Don't People Want to Wear Hearing Aids?

The review of the literature also looked at the reasons why people don't take advantage of hearing aid technology. They found the main reasons to be:

**Hearing loss issues:** They feel they hear just fine or their hearing loss is not severe enough. They don't think it is affecting their quality of life.

**Personal issues:** They can't afford hearing aids, they have other priorities or have not had their hearing tested yet.

**Stigma:** They feel they will look old or disabled. They are embarrassed and don't want to admit they have a hearing loss.

**Advice of professionals:** They have been told by a professional that they shouldn't get a hearing aid.

**Social network:** Family or friends have told them not to get a hearing aid.

**Product features:** The aids amplify too much background noise, have poor quality and are difficult to use.

Many of these reasons are unfounded. There have been significant improvements in hearing aid technology in recent years. We need to increase awareness of the benefits of hearing aids with the general population.

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**Peel Audiology & Hearing Aid Services is a full time clinic providing complete audiological assessments for all ages including hearing aid evaluations and fittings. We offer all makes and models of hearing aids from basic to the most advanced digital technology. All hearing aids are purchased with a 90 day trial period.**

***When your patients come to Peel Audiology and Hearing Aid Services they will always be seen by an Audiologist.***