

Are The New Hearing Aids Really Better?

We are often asked by our patients if newer hearing aids are any better than their old ones. Without a doubt, the answer is yes! Hearing aid manufacturers continue to invest millions of dollars annually into developing their hearing aids, making them smaller, faster and smarter. Newer, state-of-the-art hearing aids are like miniature computers — performing several million tasks every second! They use digital processing technology, providing superior sound quality, audibility and comfort over older analog hearing instruments. Advanced feedback cancellation systems have lead to fewer users complaining of the annoying “whistling” that was a common issue with older hearing instruments. Digital noise reduction features enable hearing aids to reduce the amount of background noise that their users encounter. Finally, most hearing aids now have Bluetooth or wireless capabilities, allowing them to be adjusted by a remote control and be connected with your cell phone or TV!

Even with these improvements, hearing aids continue to remain

as an essential device but not a perfect cure for individuals with hearing loss. Achieving success with hearing aids requires consistent and proper use. It takes time for an individual to rediscover all the sounds they haven't been hearing, as most people have had some degree of hearing loss for several years by the time they receive their first hearing aid. Additionally, hearing aids need to be programmed based on a prescriptive formula that takes into consideration your degree of hearing loss. Many individuals also require further fine-tuning and adjustments with their hearing instruments after the initial fitting. It is essential to see an experienced audiologist who will assist you in receiving maximal benefit with your hearing aids. Lynne Burdett and Janet Michaud have been providing audiological services to the Brampton community for the past 26 years. Initially at Peel Memorial Hospital and since 1996 at Peel Audiology and Hearing Aid Services. If you are having difficulty with your current aids or have been disappointed with ones that you've tried in the past, now is the time to come see us and do something about it!

