

OAA Hearing News

Fall 2002

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*Special points
of interest:*

- How do I get a free amplified telephone?
- Do you recommend the same earplugs for hunting and shooting?
- Where is the best place to store hearing aid batteries?
- Psychological Effects of Hearing Loss
- Ludwig van Beethoven
- Pronto Sausage Italiano recipe

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What's new in hearing aid technology?

Atlas by Oticon

Atlas is a brand new digital hearing aid from Oticon that can be tailored to your individual needs and wishes. With its advanced design, it makes high-quality digital hearing care dependable and affordable.

Three key qualities make Atlas an ideal choice for first-time and experienced users:

Digital Technology

Advances in audiology and hearing aid designs make the instruments comfortable to wear, easy to operate, and affordable to own. The unique features of the aid allow them to be programmed by your hearing care professional and tailored to your specific hearing loss & unique listening environments.

Dependable Design

Atlas hearing aids are designed with ergonomics and reliability in mind, so you can depend on them to provide clear, comfortable sound, all day long.

Affordable

Atlas aids are manufactured using the latest robotic technology, ensuring accuracy, consistency, and reliability in a high-quality hearing care solution that is affordable.

Atlas offers elegant solutions in all categories. It comes in a wide range of styles - from small, cosmetically attractive Completely-In-the-Canal (CIC) instruments to slim, lightweight Behind-the-Ear versions. Your hearing care professional will recommend the style that's best for you.

What is an AuD?

Two audiologists in our practice, Kristin Robbins and Lisa Fell, are currently pursuing their Doctor of Audiology (AuD) degree. While it is a relatively new degree in the field of Audiology, it has been in development for almost 20 years. Currently, audiologists practice with a Master's degree or a PhD. However, by 2007 all new practicing audiologists must have the AuD or PhD. Both Kristin and Lisa were strongly inclined to obtain the AuD not only to further their academic knowledge, but to provide better and more complete patient care in the medical setting. Kristin and Lisa are completing their AuD through the distance-learning (internet) program at Arizona School of Health Sciences and will finish in 2003 and 2004 respectively.

It's exciting to further our education while providing uninterrupted patient care!

Ask the Audiologists



Kristin Robbins, MS, CCC/A

- Texas licensed to practice audiology and fit and dispense hearing aids
- Certified by American Speech Language and Hearing Association
- Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology



Lisa B. Fell, MS, CCC/A

- Texas licensed to practice audiology and fit and dispense hearing aids
- Certified by American Speech Language and Hearing Association
- Fellow of the American Academy of Audiology

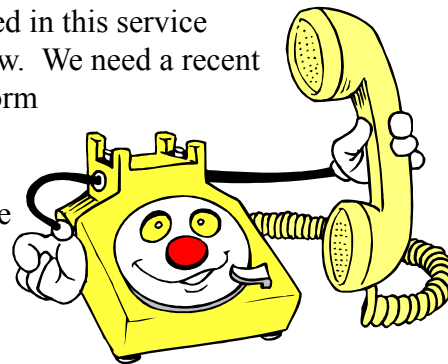


Holly Blocker, MS, CFY/A

- Texas licensed to practice as an intern in audiology and dispense hearing aids
- Candidate Member of American Academy of Audiology
- Completing her Clinical Fellowship Year in Audiology

How do I get a free amplified telephone?

If you are a Texas resident with a proven hearing loss, then you can apply for a voucher that can be exchanged for an amplified telephone for FREE! If you are interested in this service please let our audiology department know. We need a recent hearing test so that we can complete a form that you send in with a copy of your drivers license. After a few weeks a voucher will be mailed to you that can be exchanged for the telephone at our office. It is a great service, please take advantage of it!



817-784-6673 ext. 7

Do you recommend the same earplugs for hunting and target shooting?

Advances in hearing protection have allowed us to be very specific about the earplugs we recommend. For target shooting, maximum hearing protection with solid earplugs (and even earmuffs) is recommended. For hunting a filtered earplug is ideal. We understand that it is important to hear your fellow hunters and your target so with a filter in the earplug loud noise (like a gun shot) is attenuated.

Where is the best place to store hearing aid batteries?

Hearing aid batteries are typically zinc-air. They usually have a shelf life of approximately 3 years when they are stored in a cool, dry environment. A good place to store them is in a dresser drawer. Places like your car or refrigerator are not suitable places for storing batteries. Also, it is important to understand that “zinc-air” means the batteries are air activated when the colored tab/sticker is removed; therefore, replacing the tab once it has been removed does not prolong the life of the battery.

Psychological Effects of Hearing Loss

Typically, someone with untreated hearing loss may experience some or all of the following psychological effects:

- embarrassment
- guilt
- depression
- worry
- insecurity
- low self-confidence
- shame
- anger
- frustration
- anxiety
- suspiciousness
- lack of concentration

Someone Famous

Ludwig van Beethoven

Classical Composer

Ludwig van Beethoven, a classical composer, that despite losing his hearing late in life continued to compose what many believe to be some of the greatest music ever written. Beethoven began performing as a child under the direction of his father. By his late 20's he learned that he was losing his hearing. He became deaf at the height of his musical career and continued to compose pieces such as the Ninth Symphony. Beethoven was very angry about his deafness. It is likely that he had tinnitus because he reported hearing "singing and buzzing, constantly." The exact cause of his hearing loss is unknown.

Recipe Corner



Presto Sausage Italiano

8 oz. penne pasta, uncooked
1 lb. Italian sausage links
(pork or turkey)
1 -24 oz. jar spaghetti sauce
1/2 cup mozzarella cheese,
shredded
2 Tbsp. parmesan cheese,
grated

Cook pasta according to package directions. Slice sausage into 1/2 inch pieces. Cook sausage in a lightly greased skillet for about 10 minutes, turning often, until browned. Add spaghetti sauce to skillet and heat thoroughly. Serve over pasta and top with cheeses.

Servings: 6
Time: 20 minutes

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*“Blindness separates us from objects but
deafness separates us from people.”*

-Helen Keller

INTERNET SPOTLIGHT

If you have internet access, you should check out this web site...

www.TXhearing.com

TXhearing.com is our office website! You can read about the doctors and audiologists at Physicians' Hearing Aid Center. We have also included general hearing aid information and links to various sites that we think are worth checking out. Happy Surfing!