

Fall Update

Making Friends With Your New Hearing Aids

Many people look forward to perfect hearing when they get new hearing aids but are often disappointed by the actual performance. One solution is to have realistic expectations of hearing aids. Here are some pointers.

-Can hearing aids give me normal hearing? Hearing aids are really aids to helping folks hear better but unfortunately, not normally. If you expect to hear normally, you'll be disappointed but if you expect to hear better, you'll be pleased with your new hearing aids. One way to find out how much better you are doing is to ask friends and relatives if they notice that you are hearing better with your new hearing aids.

-Can I wear hearing aids full time from the first day? While some people are able to do this, other people find that they need time to get used to the hearing aids. Their brain needs to learn to hear with the new sounds coming in from the aids. For these individuals gradually increasing the time of use may be helpful to adjust.

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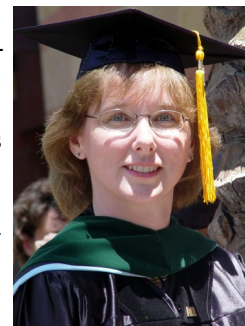


Lisa Kluge Earns Doctorate

Lisa Kluge has been an audiologist with Professional Hearing Services for almost seven years. On August 2, she graduated from A. T. Still University, Arizona School of Health Sciences, with a doctoral degree in Audiology. The course work consisted of online classes in pharmacology, anatomy, physiology, tinnitus, evoked potentials, vestibular assessment, as well as others. "Successfully completing this doctoral program has helped me sharpen and expand my clinical skills to better meet the needs of my patients," said Kluge. Dr. Kluge had previously graduated from the University of Wisconsin in Stevens Point with a bachelors degree in Communicative Disorders and masters degree in Audiology.

Dr. Kluge chose A.T. Still University for her doctoral coursework because they offer comprehensive online degree programs that allow the professional to continue their clinical work while pursuing this advanced degree.

A.T.S.U. was established in 1892 and began as the nation's first college of osteopathic medicine and has evolved into a leading university of health sciences. A.T.S.U. offers master's degrees in various allied health fields as well as doctorates in health education, physical therapy, audiology, dental medicine and osteopathy.



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Announcement

Jennifer and her husband are expecting their first baby late October. Below is an ultrasound of the baby at 12 weeks. She will be on maternity leave from mid-October to the end of December.

If you are a patient of Jennifer's and need assistance, you may contact any of the other audiologists to help you with your needs.



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MAKING FRIEND WITH YOUR NEW HEARING AIDS

-What about everything being loud? With new hearing aids it often seems that everyday sounds are too loud. However with time, the brain learns to decrease the internal volume so everyday sounds don't stay too loud. It is important to keep wearing the hearing aids so the brain can make this adjustment.

-Can hearing aids help you hear better in noise? It's true that hearing aids work best in quiet but digital hearing aids with directional microphones and noise suppression circuitry make it possible to hear in background noise with hearing aids. Technical advances in hearing aids have greatly improved listening abilities in background noise. Discussing hearing aid options with your audiologist is a great way to find out about these new advances.

Portion of this article were taken from Hearing Loss magazine May/June 2005. Complete article available on request.

L.A.C.E.

Listening & Communication Enhancement

L.A.C.E. is a training program that can help you improve your listening skills and understanding of speech in difficult environments, such as; restaurants, crowds, or in groups. The program is designed to be completed at home on your computer or DVD player. It is a very easy to use program that presents speech from various talkers in both quiet and noisy situations. You repeat what you have heard and compare it to the written message. L.A.C.E. allows users to practice and improve listening skills as they receive immediate feedback from the program. L.A.C.E. has been utilized to help enhance listening skills in patients who are being fit with hearing aids. It can also be used with individuals who currently wear hearing aids or even with people who don't have a hearing loss. It is like physical therapy for the ears. L.A. C.E. can help train your brain to:

- Pick out a voice in a noisy place
- Develop skills to process rapid speech
- Focus attention on one voice at a time
- Fill in words you've missed based on what you know
- Remember words a person has said and predict what may come next

If you feel you could benefit from "physical therapy for your ears", consider participating in our L.A.C.E introductory offer. Call us at 262-549-5150 and ask to speak to one of our audiologists for further information. Additional information can be found at www.neurotone.com.



What Did You Say?

Are you having difficulty hearing and understanding what people are saying?

Learn how to improve listening and communication skills at a presentation that will be open to the public on February 19, 2009 at 9:00am at Waukesha Memorial Hospital. One of our audiologists from Professional Hearing Services will discuss various communication strategies that can improve listening and communication skills for both the listener as well as the talker. We will discuss techniques such as "Clear Speech", Lip Reading, Prediction, Improving the Environment, and more. We will also do a demonstration on how to use L.A.C.E. (see above article.) L.A.C.E. has helped many people to improve their listening and communication skills. We hope you can join us!