New Updates in Hearing Aids

The American Academy of Audiology convention was held from April 14 to April 17, 2010 and several of our audiologists were able to attend. Some of the best updates came from the hearing aid field which expands the technological capabilities of hearing aids.

**Phonak:** *Life is on.* Phonak recently released two new hearing aids the *Versàta Art & Certena Art,* that complements their existing Exelia Art line. These devices have a unique capability called sound recover that allows for better audibility of high pitched sounds. The hearing aids are able to shift high pitched sounds to a lower frequency where the ear is typically healthier, improving audibility of these difficult to hear sounds.

Phonak also released a new non-custom in-the-canal device called the *Audéo ZIP.* The advantage of this is an instant open fit device for individuals with mild to moderate hearing loss in an in-the-ear style.

**Oticon:** *People First.* Oticon also released hearing aids with newer technology. *Agil Pro* is a premium hearing aid allowing you to make sense of sounds around you with advanced communication between the two hearing aids. *Agil* is an advanced hearing aid which decreases your listening effort and helps you conserve energy. Below is a summary of features available in this cutting edge technology:
- Binaural Connectivity to allow for binaural program and volume changes.
- Speech Guard to improve the listener’s ability to follow speech, even in difficult background noise.
- Music widening makes use of advanced reverberation research to give a sense of space and realism.

Additional information can be found at: [http://www.professionalhearingservices.com](http://www.professionalhearingservices.com)

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Lower Price

Due to the overwhelming response to our battery special, Professional Hearing Services will continue to offer a six pack of batteries for $4.00
**Sudden Hearing Loss: Is it an Emergency?**

If a person experiences a sudden loss or worsening of hearing it is important to seek medical attention as soon as possible. A sudden loss of hearing will be evaluated to rule out earwax build-up or ear infections. If these causes are ruled out a prompt evaluation of hearing and an otolaryngologic assessment are strongly recommended. Some sudden sensorineural (nerve) losses can be partially or fully recovered with steroid treatment. The success of this treatment is greater if the steroids treatment is administered soon after the onset of the sudden loss of hearing. The causes of sudden sensorineural hearing loss is not fully known. This may be due to a virus that attacks the inner ear, an interruption in blood flow or other unknown causes. We do know that the sooner a sudden sensorineural hearing loss is treated the greater the likelihood of success in recovering hearing.

**Walk4Hearing**

The Walk4Hearing was held at Veteran’s Park in Milwaukee on Sunday, May 16th. The Milwaukee Walk4Hearing surpassed their goal of raising $25,000 and was able to raise $44,000 for the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA). The Walk4Hearing mission is to provide awareness and resources for hearing loss prevention and education. All of the audiologists of Professional Hearing Services were able to participate in the Walk 4 Hearing.

**Congratulations and Best Wishes**

Heather Zingler graduated from the University of Wisconsin –Madison on Friday May 14th with her doctoral degree in audiology.

The staff of Professional Hearing Services would like to congratulate Dr. Zingler on successfully completing her degree and her fourth year externship with us. We are very grateful to her for all that she has brought to our practice over the past two years. We wish her success and happiness in her future endeavors.