

# Sound BYTES

INFORMATION FOR YOUR EARS



## MOISTURE, SUMMER & HEARING AIDS



Summer is a time of year that most of us look forward to all year. It is a time to spend outdoors, at the beach, up at the cabin, in the garden, barbecuing with friends, or just enjoying a good book on the patio. Our Wisconsin summers can be enjoyable; however, our weather can be hot and humid. The temperature and humidity can

place your hearing aids at risk for moisture damage.

### What are the signs of moisture damage in hearing aids?

1. **Static:** A persistent frying or sizzling sound in the hearing aid. Usually present in only one ear and may start after a few hours of use. The static can go away after taking it out for the night or drying the hearing aid.
2. **Intermittency:** A cutting in and

out of the sound in the hearing aid. Some individuals notice that after opening and closing the battery compartment it temporarily resolves but returns multiple times in a day.

3. **No Sound/Dead:** The instrument can entirely fail and not produce any sound even with a fresh battery.

### How can moisture problems be avoided or reduced?

#### Avoid potentially “wet” environments:

Remove your hearing aids when swimming, bathing, exercising, or when doing activities that you believe you may perspire profusely.

#### Use drying devices:

Hearing aid savers and electronic dryers are designed to remove moisture from the devices while you sleep. The instruments are stored in the devices that utilize a desiccant, heat or UV light to remove moisture.

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# HEAR

## WELCOME

### KASEY ENGLEBERT, AUD



Many of you may recognize the newest member of the audiology staff at Professional Hearing Services, as Kasey, the fourth-year doctoral student, who has been working with us over the past year. We are proud to announce that on May 12, 2017, Kasey graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Madison with a Doctorate of Audiology. We would like to congratulate her on this accomplishment and thank her for spending the year training with our practice.

We are also excited to announce that Dr. Englebert has accepted a full-time audiology position in our practice. She will be working out of the Waukesha location this summer and will add the New Berlin location in September.

Dr. Englebert is very excited to develop strong relationships with her patients and help them reconnect with their loved ones through better hearing. She is an avid Badger and Brewer fan and tries to attend as many games as she can. She is happy to announce that she is engaged to be married in June, 2018.

## ASK THE EXPERT: AIRPLANE EARS EAR COMFORT WHILE FLYING . . .

### QUESTION: WHY DO MY EARS HURT WHEN I FLY?

The rapid change in altitude that occurs during take-off and descent causes a difference in air pressure between your middle ear and the environment. Your Eustachian Tube cannot equalize the pressure between your middle ear and nasopharynx as fast as take-off and descent happen, resulting in ear pain due to the buildup of pressure. This phenomenon is often referred to as airplane ear.

### QUESTION: WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO HELP WITH THE PAIN?

Chewing gum, drinking, or eating can all help with the pain. These can help because swallowing opens the Eustachian Tubes, helping equalize the air pressure faster.



### QUESTION: I'VE HEARD EARPLANES CAN HELP. HOW DO THEY WORK?

When used as directed, Earplanes can relieve ear pain because they contain a CeramX filter that attempts to regulate air pressure more naturally. If inserted correctly, they can also be used as hearing protection while you're flying.

### QUESTION: WHERE CAN I BUY EARPLANES?

Many stores with pharmacies have them for purchase including Walgreens, Walmart, CVS, Target, and here at Professional Hearing Services. You can also buy them online through Amazon or eBay.

