

## ***Forever young: 5 ways treating hearing loss can revitalize your life***

Source: Better Hearing Institute ([www.BetterHearing.org](http://www.BetterHearing.org))

1. **Unlock your earning potential.** Hearing your best at work helps you do your best. One study found that using hearing aids reduced the risk of income loss by 90 to 100 percent for those with milder hearing loss, and from 65 to 77 percent for those with severe to moderate hearing loss. And people with hearing loss who use hearing aids are more likely to be employed than their peers who don't.
2. **Open the door to greater intimacy.** Don't let those sweet nothings go unheard. Feeling emotionally close to your partner is one of the most satisfying aspects of any intimate relationship. But it rests on good communication. When hearing loss goes unaddressed, it can make even the most loving partner seem remote or unresponsive. Luckily, research shows that using hearing aids can help improve interpersonal relationships - including greater intimacy.
3. **Pull the plug on stress and boost your mood.** People with untreated hearing loss often feel angry, frustrated, anxious, isolated, and depressed. But research shows that when they use hearing aids, their mental health often rallies. Many regain emotional stability, become more socially engaged, feel a greater sense of safety and independence, and see a general improvement in their overall quality of life.
4. **Bolster your self-confidence.** An important perk of using hearing aids can be enhanced emotional well-being. Research shows that when people with hearing loss use hearing aids, many feel more in control of their lives and less self-critical. One Better Hearing Institute (BHI) study found that the majority of people with mild and severe hearing loss felt better about themselves and life overall as a result of using hearing aids.
5. **Improve cognitive functioning.** Studies out of Johns Hopkins linked hearing loss with accelerated cognitive decline in older adults and found that seniors with hearing loss are significantly more likely to develop dementia over time. BHI studies found that many people with hearing loss report improvements in their cognitive skills with the use of hearing aids.

## **Best of the Best**

Thanks to all of you who voted us **Best of the Best Hearing Care!** This was the first year for this category and we are honored to have been chosen by the community. We truly appreciate each of you, and we'll continue to work hard to maintain your trust and your loyal support.



## **Audiology Patient Choice Act of 2014**

Current legislation for audiology patients with basic Medicare coverage does not grant the same access to audiology care that most Americans and all of Congress already have through their private insurers. The Audiology Patient Choice Act of 2014 (H.R. 5304) is a bill before Congress that will allow seniors with Medicare to seek services directly from audiologists without requiring a referral from a physician. It will also allow Medicare to reimburse



audiologists for other services that they are licensed to provide, such as cerumen removal, tinnitus evaluations, auditory processing tests, and auditory rehabilitation. Most other insurance carriers do cover these services and do not require a physician's referral. Medicare currently does not cover these services and does require a referral from a physician. This act will bring Medicare in line with the other major carriers. This act will not allow for coverage for hearing aids through basic Medicare.

If you are in favor of this bill, we urge you to show your support for the Audiology Patient Choice Act of 2014 (H.R. 5304) by contacting your congressman today. District 2 - Renee Ellmers 910-230-1910; District 4 - David Price 919-859-5999; District 13 - George Holding 919-782-4400.

## Wax Guard Use and Pricing

For those of you wearing hearing aids that have wax guards that you replace, we regret to say that our cost for the wax guards replacement packs from some manufacturers has increased, so we are forced to increase our prices accordingly. However, your cost will still be less than you can find through online retailers.

The newer wax guards do offer more moisture protection, so you may not have to replace them as often as before. Keeping your ear canals clean will help also. There is little you can do to stop moisture from settling in the wax guard, since this naturally occurs in your warm, moist ear. We encourage you to replace the guards when the hearing aids sound weak, so you get full benefit from your hearing aids.

## Hear from our Patients

*"I was so impressed by Dr. Marquis and her staff - I was given such warm, personalized service. I am recommending Wake Audiology to my friends." CB*

## We Appreciate Your Referrals

Referring your friends and family is the highest compliment you can pay us. As a thank you for referring new hearing aid patients, we will make a contribution to a charity of your choice.

Thank you for choosing Wake Audiology as your hearing care provider.

Sincerely,

Dr. Catherine Marquis  
Carol and Sandy

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contacts



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