

# GETTING TO KNOW YOUR DIGITAL HEARING AID



ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF SPEECH AND HEARING  
Manasagangothri, Mysore - 570 006

## GETTING TO KNOW YOUR DIGITAL HEARING AID

**Name of the Person Using the Hearing Aid:**

**Case Number:**

**Age/Sex:**

**Prescription Number:**

**Date when hearing aid was acquired:**

Hearing aids are devices that make sounds louder. Hearing aids can either use the conventional analog technology or digital technology.

Analog hearing aids make sounds louder by making the sound wave larger. They pick up sounds using a microphone, and then convert these sounds to electric signals. The sounds are then made louder, or amplified. For this, they use transistors in the circuit. The amplified sound is then delivered to the ear through a receiver. Analog hearing aids often give less amplification to sounds that are already loud, so that the user is protected from uncomfortable loud sound levels. All adjustments are made using the volume control and trimmer controls.

Digital hearing aids have a computer chip in them. This allows the hearing care professional to easily adjust the sound output and other features of the hearing aid. The presence of a digital computer chip also means the hearing aid can be built in a small size. Digital hearing aids have several capabilities, including automatic volume control, different listening programs – for quiet, noise, telephone; and feedback reduction.

There are different types and models of hearing aids available. Please note the type and model of the hearing aid that has been recommended for you:



Behind The Ear (BTE)



In The Ear (ITE)



In The Canal (ITC)



Completely In  
the Canal

**Hearing aid model recommended:**

For the right ear: \_\_\_\_\_

For the left ear: \_\_\_\_\_

Do not use the hearing aid recommended for the right ear for the left ear or vice versa, unless your audiologist has specifically said you can do that

It is important to note the serial number of your hearing aid. This information will help you identify your hearing aid amongst other hearing aids of the same type and model. This is especially helpful in the identification of your hearing aid if:

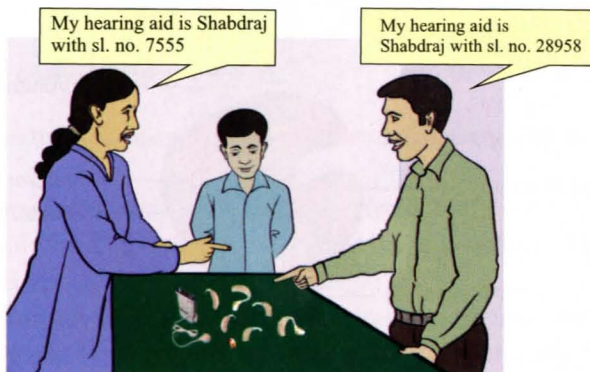
1. It is lost/stolen



2. It is given for repair/servicing



3. There are more than one hearing aid users in the family



4. You need to communicate with your audiologist regarding your hearing aid

**Serial number of your hearing aid:**

Right ear: \_\_\_\_\_

Left ear: \_\_\_\_\_

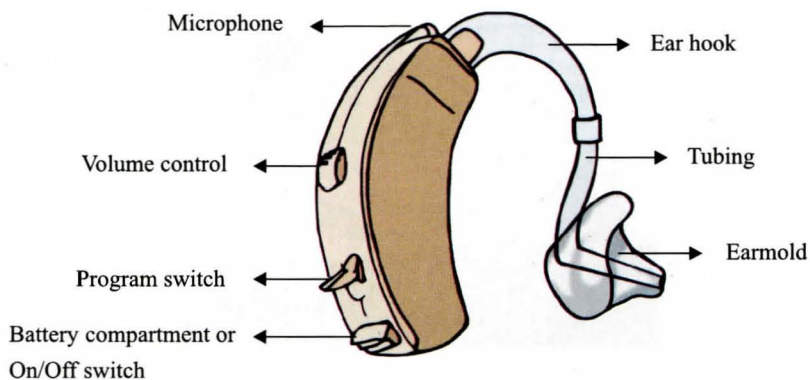
Whenever you give your hearing aid for repair/servicing, make a note of the following:

- Date:
- Place:
- Type of repair/service:
- Part replaced:
- Cost:

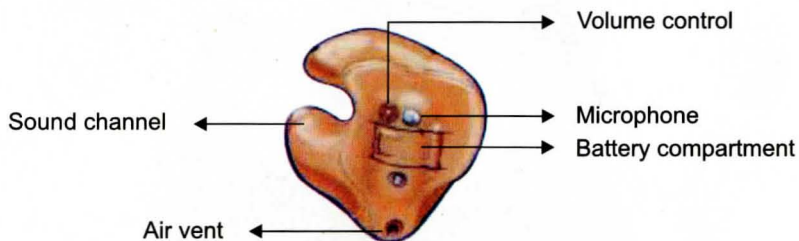
**Learn to identify the different parts of your hearing aid:**

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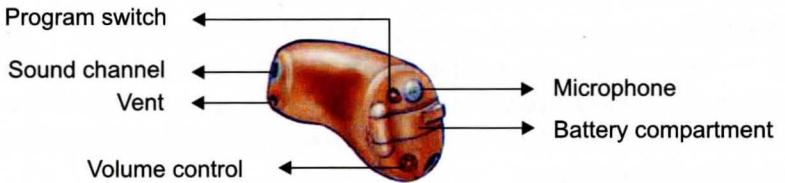
**Behind-The-Ear Hearing Aid**



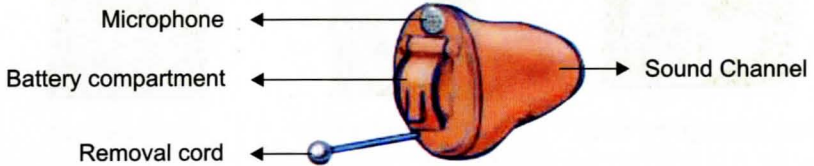
**In-The-Ear Hearing Aid**



## In-The-Canal Hearing Aid



## Completely-In-Canal Hearing Aid



<b>Volume Control</b>	:	Enabled/Disabled	
<b>If enabled, setting recommended</b>	:	RIGHT	LEFT
<b>Program switch</b>	:	Enabled/Disabled	RIGHT LEFT
<b>If enabled</b>	:		
		<b>PROGRAM 1</b>	-
		<b>PROGRAM 2</b>	-
		<b>OTHER</b>	-

## The battery recommended for your hearing aid is:n



**Voltage of the battery:** 1.4 volts

It is important that you use only the recommended battery type, or your hearing aid will not work.

These are zinc-air batteries. If the adhesive tab (coloured) is removed, the battery begins to react with the oxygen in the air, and discharge. Therefore, remove the tab only just before inserting the battery into the hearing aid.

When you insert the battery into the battery compartment, check that the '+' end of the battery is in contact with the '+' part of the compartment. Similarly, the

'-'end of the battery (the flat side) should correspond to the '-' sign on the battery compartment.

### **Earmolds**

An earmold is a piece of plastic that is molded to fit perfectly into your ear. It is custom-made for each individual. It is attached to the hearing aid. Earmolds help in transmission of sound from the hearing aid receiver to the ear. Earmolds may be of any of the following types:



Shell Earmold (for BTE)



Skeleton Earmold



Canal Earmold

**Earmold is made for your:** Right / Left / Both ears

The figure below shows how the hearing aid, tubing and the earmold should be connected:



### **Remember:**

- Switch your hearing aid 'off' when it is not in use
- Take the batteries out and keep the battery compartment open
- Remove the battery when the hearing aid is not in use for a long time
- Do not bathe wearing your hearing aid
- If you have a discharging ear, consult a doctor immediately
- Remove the hearing aid while out in the rain
- Service your hearing aid periodically
- Clean your earmolds every three days
- Use warm water and soap to clear out any wax or dirt/debris in the earmold. Dry it well before using it

- Do not drop the hearing aid
  - Keep the hearing aid clean by wiping it with a dry cloth or cotton
  - Do not expose the hearing aid to X-rays. Do not place it near heaters, stoves, television, radio sets, etc
  - Visit your audiologist regularly for hearing testing and hearing aid testing
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**If you have any questions/comments, or need any help, feel free to contact us:**

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