

**Some tips for families
with persons
using hearing aids**



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

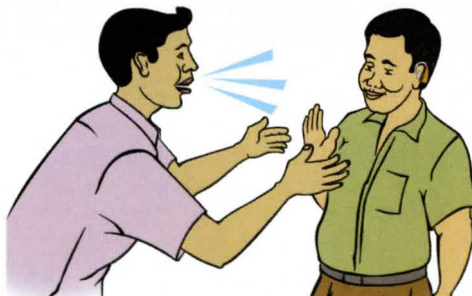
SOME TIPS FOR FAMILIES WITH PERSONS USING HEARING AIDS

The effect of hearing loss on one's life is severe. Even with a hearing aid, listening can be very difficult. The person using a hearing aid needs to concentrate to hear well. The person may also be afraid that he/she will not understand the speaker correctly and respond properly. This can cause a lot of stress. Getting used to the hearing aid takes a few weeks to a few months. Even after that, the person may depend on hearing and also need to see the speaker's face. As a friend or a family member, here are a few tips as to what you can do to make listening less difficult for the person using a hearing aid.

1. Talk to the person using a hearing aid standing/sitting in front of them.



2. If the person using hearing aids needs to look at the speaker's face in order to understand speech better, the lighting should be good. Let the light shine directly on your face.
3. Speak clearly. Pause at meaningful places.
4. Do not shout or speak in a very loud voice, as it may be painful.



5. When we shout, speech may sound different and facial expressions may be understood wrongly
6. Call for the attention of the person using the hearing aid by calling out their name or tapping them on the shoulder before you start talking.



7. Turn the TV volume down when you have to talk. Avoid speaking when TV, radio, or mixer is on.
8. Write down important messages, phone numbers, names, etc.
9. Speak normally, without any extra lip movement. Speak just a little slower than usual if required.
10. Avoid talking from a different room, because they will not be able to see you.



11. People find it harder to understand speech when they are not well or tired.
12. If the person using the hearing aid does not understand you, move closer and tell them the message again, using simple words.
13. Teach the person using the hearing aid to choose the correct programme for different situations - for listening in noise, listening in quiet, etc.

14. There are other devices called Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs), such as TV listening devices, special alarm clocks and telephone amplifiers.



If you have any questions/comments, or need any help, feel free to contact us:

All India Institute of Speech and Hearing,
Manasagangothri,
Mysore- 570 006

Ph. No.: (0821)-2514449, 2514618

Fax: 0821-2510515

Email: aiish_dir@yahoo.com

Working hours: 9.00 am to 5.30 pm- Monday to Friday
(Except on Central Govt Holidays)
