

# HEARLINK

your hearing is our business

Ph: 1300 HEARING



NEWSLETTER NO: 3

## Will my hearing aids whistle?



The technical term for the whistling that can occur with hearing aids is "acoustic feedback." Acoustic feedback in hearing aids occurs when amplified sound exiting the hearing aid from the speaker gets picked up again by the microphone. It sounds like a squeal or whistle, and it can be quite embarrassing and annoying for wearers as well as those around them.

Almost all hearing aids will create feedback when something is placed next to the microphone – for example, when wearers cup their hands over their hearing aids, they will usually whistle. Hearing aids should not feed back during ordinary wear when there is nothing near the microphone. Some typical causes of feedback include loose-fitting hearing aids (this allows sound to leak out and feed back into the microphone), hearing aids that are not seated properly in the ear, and blockage in the ear such as earwax.

Today, many digital hearing aids have special systems that help to reduce feedback. These systems detect the feedback and eliminate it before it is audible to the wearer. If your hearing aids are whistling during normal use please contact us to have the problem evaluated by one of our technicians, you may also need to see one of our audiologists.

## How Can I Tell If My Hearing Is Changing?

You may feel like your hearing is fine, but you cannot understand what people are saying to you. This is typically a sign of one of the most common types of hearing loss called high-frequency hearing loss. This hearing loss only affects the upper ranges, so you can hear some sounds fine, but not others. These sounds



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give meaning to words, so you may feel like sounds are loud enough, but not clear enough.

Other signs of hearing loss to be on the lookout for:

- \* Asking friends and family to repeat themselves
- \* Difficulty hearing the TV or telephone
- \* Difficulty understanding conversation in noisy situations, such as restaurants
- \* Frustration from family members who feel you do not understand them
- \* Feeling like people around you are mumbling or not speaking clearly

The first step is to have your hearing evaluated by one of our audiologists. The audiologist will be able to discuss your options which may include treatment and/or the fitting of hearing aids. If you already have hearing aids, these may need to be re-programmed or updated.

**Pensioners may be eligible for free, government funded services.**

We at HEARLINK hope you enjoyed reading this Newsletter

## Funny



An elderly man went to the audiologist and he was fitted with hearing aids. He went back in a few weeks to the audiologist for a review, and the audiologist said "You are hearing much better. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

To which the man said, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!

## HEARLINK LOCATIONS

03 9326 2231

CENTRAL OFFICE  
3/19 Norwood Crescent  
MOONEE PONDS 3039

264 Main Road East  
ST ALBANS 3021

Level1, 13-15 Lake Street  
CAROLINE SPRINGS 3023

Sunbury Private Hospital  
Cnr Riddell Rd & Spavin Ave  
SUNBURY 3429

Melton Health  
195-209 Barries Rd  
MELTON WEST 3337

Glenroy Road Clinic  
182 Glenroy Road  
GLENROY 3046

Geelong Office  
51 Thomson Street  
BELMONT 3216  
Tel: 5241 6400

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## The Widex Clear hearing aids and the DEX assistive listening devices - a true wireless solution

Natural hearing is complex. Sound is perceived, assessed and processed instantly. **Widex clear™** is the latest advance in endeavoring to replicate these complexities of life-like hearing to create the foundation for a natural sound experience.

The DEX range of wireless assistive listening devices is designed for seamless connectivity, superior sound quality and ease of use. By combining the Widex CLEAR hearing aids with the DEX devices, some of the more difficult listening situations such as watching TV, listening to music or using the mobile phone can be easily handled.



The DEX range of products includes the TV-DEX, the M-DEX and the RC-DEX. All DEX are easy to use and intuitive; their design is based on human cognitive ergonomics. This means that the DEX device reacts the way the user expects it to react based on their knowledge of other common devices such as mobile phones, TV remote controls etc.

The M-DEX ensures wireless connectivity between the hearing aids and mobile phone, the phone conversation is heard directly in both ears making it easier to hear and understand the conversation when in noise - and whilst driving its 'hands free'. The M-DEX special 'Room Off' feature, lets the user turn off the hearing aid microphones (the aids will not pick up surrounding sound) so that full attention can be placed on the phone conversation. The M-DEX can also be used to direct listening attention in a specific direction – front, back, left or right depending on the user's listening needs – this is called FreeFocus and it is easily activated with a push of a button. For example, when in the car, the FreeFocus can be directed to the back to better hear children sitting in the back seat or it can be directed to the left to hear a partner sitting in the passenger seat – without turning your head. And, the versatile M-DEX can also be used as an advanced remote control for volume control and program shifts.

TV viewing can be an extremely challenging situation for hearing aid users, usually due to the poor quality of loudspeaker components used in TV's and the room acoustics in an average living room. The TV-DEX uses proprietary Widex wireless technology that is ultra fast to deliver the sound from the TV (or Hi-Fi, mp3 player etc.) directly to the hearing aids without annoying delays or echo's – we call this amazing feature EchoFree™. The TV-DEX delivers up to 10 hours of uninterrupted TV or Audio sound in stereo and with high fidelity quality sound. The 'Room Off' button mutes the hearing aid microphones and switches off other room noises so only the high quality sound from the TV (music etc) is heard.

## We are conducting a free demonstration of the Clear 440, TV-DEX and M-DEX on:

- **8<sup>th</sup> September, 2011, 11 am**
- **12<sup>th</sup> September, 2011, 4.30 pm**

**At 3/19 Norwood Crescent  
MOONEE PONDS 3039**

**Please call 9326 2231 to make a booking.**