

ENT Treatment News

☪ Fall 2012 ☪

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TELECOILS & LOOPS MAY PROVIDE BETTER HEARING IN DIFFICULT LISTENING SITUATIONS!

BROOKFIELD —What is a telecoil (t-coil)? A telecoil is a small copper coil that can be placed in most hearing aids. It emits electromagnetic energy, instead of sound waves. It is activated by a switch on your hearing aid. It works with a landline or cell phone, as long as it is telecoil compatible. It provides better sound quality on the telephone without feedback (whistling).

What is a loop? A hearing loop is a thin wire that circles a listening area. The area can be a large theatre or even just a single person. The person whose voice needs to be transmitted (actor, speaker, pastor/priest) wears a microphone. The speech signal from the microphone is picked up by the loop and then it creates a magnetic energy field. The magnetic energy field is picked up by the telecoil in your hearing aid just by activating the switch!

So what's the advantage?

People with hearing loss are often in situations like churches, theatres and meeting rooms where it is difficult to hear the speaker. Sound has to travel a distance from the speaker, reverberates off walls and gets mixed up with other room noise. It's not surprising that it is difficult to understand by the time it reaches your ear! Loop systems take sound straight from the source and deliver it to your hearing aids. It's as if you were seated right next to the speaker!

What if my hearing aid does not have a telecoil? Not to worry! You can purchase a personal neckloop worn around the neck that would deliver the sound to your hearing aid. If you don't wear a hearing aid, the magnetic energy from the loop can be delivered to a headset or earbuds.

If you've traveled to Europe, you may have noticed signs indicating certain ar-

reas were looped. This technology has been around for years and is very popular there. It is starting to enter our area, so hopefully you will start seeing signs like these indicating an area is looped! To see a list of venues that are looped in Wisconsin, please visit foxvalleyhearingloop.com and click on the "List of Loops in Wisconsin" on the left. If you notice a venue that is looped, please let me know so that I can add it to the list! To use your telecoil in the looped area, please come into the office so I can set up a loop program for your hearing aid!



Advantages of Loop Systems:

- Require no pick-up/return of portable headsets for those who have telecoils in their hearing aids
- Require purchasing/maintaining/replacing fewer portable headsets for those without t-coils
- Inconspicuous – No need to draw attention to your hearing loss
- Can be used with your hearing aid – Do not have to take aids out or try to wear a headset over your hearing aids
- Deliver personalized sound because you are using your programmed hearing aids

Therefore, loop systems would probably be the most likely to be used of all listening systems! Let's hope we begin to see more venues with this technology in the near future in our own area!

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As a special offer to new clients, I'm giving you the opportunity to receive a 10% discount on any new hearing aid package up to a maximum of \$300 with this coupon. This offer is for new clients only and not valid with other offers. This offer expires on December 15, 2012. To arrange for your free hearing screen, please call my office today at 262-780-4444. Please mention this ad when you call and bring this coupon with you on your office visit.

Did you know?

Hearing loss is the third leading chronic health condition among Americans, after arthritis and high blood pressure. At least 31 million Americans, or 1 in 10, have hearing loss.



If invisibility is what you are interested in, check out Oticon's new Intiga IIC! Please call me at 262-780-4444 for more information!

Battery Tip:

Please remember to let your batteries sit for about a minute after you pull the tabs off. This allows air to enter the battery cell and increases battery life.

Communication Tip:

When speaking to someone, please remember to get their attention before you begin speaking. Then you are sure they are ready to listen!

Check out our website:
www.enttreatmentcenter.com

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*Information On a Free
Hearing Seminar and
Up To \$300 Savings Offer
Within This Issue!*

Free Hearing Seminar!

The date for my next educational seminar is Wednesday, October 24, 2012.

- 12 noon - 1pm (Lunch will be served)
- Elmbrook Memorial Hospital, Lobby Conference Room (Front Entrance of Hospital)

Jordan Bonnett from Phonak Hearing Instruments will make a presentation. For more information call 262-780-4444 to RSVP!

New Hearing Device – SoundBite

The SoundBite has been approved for persons with single sided deafness or conductive hearing loss, where they cannot use a traditional hearing aid in their ear canal. Patients wear a microphone on the ear with hearing loss that transmits the sound to a mouthpiece worn on the teeth. The sound vibration travels through the bone up to the cochlea (hearing part of the ear) of the better hearing ear. The device is rechargeable and lasts about 12 to 15 hours (microphone earpiece) and 8 hours (mouthpiece). This is a very interesting idea that hopefully will provide great benefit to the hearing impaired population!