

ENT Treatment News

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Hearing Impairment Linked to Depression

BROOKFIELD —

As the holidays come to a close and cold weather settles in, people often feel depressed. Having a hearing loss can also lead to depression. A study from April 2014 found that persons who reported excellent hearing had a 4.9% prevalence of moderate to severe depression. That number was 7.1% for persons with good hearing. People who reported a little trouble hearing or greater hearing loss had an 11.4% prevalence of moderate to

severe depression. Additionally, 19.1% had mild depressive symptoms. Depression was more common in women. The depression was more pronounced among persons with hearing loss aged 18-69.

Persons with hearing loss can become isolated from friends/family members. They often become frustrated when trying to communicate. The intensive listening effort can be very stressful. People often feel anxious as they are trying to

hear and understand what others are saying.

Addressing hearing loss issues, with the use of hearing instruments, often improves quality of life. People who use hearing aids are often more optimistic. They tend to socialize more and build stronger relationships with people. The majority of hearing aid users say they have helped their ability to communicate effectively in most situations. As many as 91% of owners of hearing instruments

purchased in the last year, are satisfied with their hearing aids. Most people who use hearing aids while on the job say it helped their performance. All of these things would lead to persons reporting less depressive symptoms.

We only get one chance at life—make the most of it by hearing your best!

J A M A
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Better Hearing
Institute

Special Offer!

Save Up To \$500 Off a Hearing Aid Purchase With a Free Hearing Screen for New Clients!

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 \$500 with this coupon. This offer is for new clients only and not valid with other offers. This offer expires on March 15, 2016. 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?

One in six U. S. adults (ages 18 and older) report trouble hearing without the use of a hearing aid according to data from the 2014 National Health Interview Survey.

Rechargeable Hearing Aids Expanded

ZPower will introduce a rechargeable battery option for Phonak, GN Resound, and Siemens (312 battery) hearing aids. The battery door of the hearing instrument will be replaced with a ZPower battery door to fit into the charging unit. The charging capabilities are much better than any rechargeable product currently on the market. The typical charge will be 18-24 hours. If doing Bluetooth streaming, the charge would be an astonishing 16 hours. The unit will be available early 2016. It should cost somewhere around \$350.

A Hearing Aid That Can "See"

Researchers at the University of Sterling in Scotland have developed a hearing aid that can see visual cues. It will have a miniaturized camera that can lip-read. It will process visual information in real time and seamlessly switch between audio and visual cues to help the patient better understand speech in difficult listening environments. This is in the early phases of development. Future research will determine the optimal placement of the camera.

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Hearing Aids Reduce Risk of Cognitive Decline in Older Adults

Helene Amieva, a researcher in the Neuropsychology and Epidemiology of Aging in Bordeaux, France led this study. It followed 3,670 adults, ages 65 and older, for a 25 year period. The study compared the cognitive decline among adults who were using hearing aids and those who were not. The study found no significant difference in cognitive ability in groups of normal hearing people and those

who used hearing aids. However, the group with untreated hearing loss showed lower scores on a test for cognitive function. Hopefully, the study will give the general public a new way of thinking about the importance of hearing care. Getting hearing instruments sooner rather than later can definitely help with cognitive decline.

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www.enttreatmentcenter.com