

## **VA Hearing Aids**

**Mission Statement:** Honor American's Veterans by providing exceptional rehabilitation services and prosthetic devices that restore, enhance, preserve their health and independence.

**Vision Statement**: Maximize Veterans' functional independence and successful integration into their communities by providing a continuum of rehabilitation services and advanced technologies, engaged in partnership with Veterans and their families, and aligned to optimize delivery across the VHA health care system.

Hearing aids are included in VA benefits. VHA standard practice is that any Veteran enrolled and eligible for care is eligible for hearing aids. There are no administrative barriers to access hearing healthcare or hearing aids for enrolled Veterans.

How to receive hearing aids:

- 1. Register for services at your VA medical center of choice.
  - a. There are several ways to enroll:
    - i. In person at any VA Medical Center or Clinic
    - ii. Online by filling out the Form 10-10EZ. http://www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez/1010ezr.asp
    - iii. By mailing a completed Form 10-10EZ to the Medical Center of your choice (please be sure to sign your application or it cannot be processed for enrollment).
- 2. Once registered, contact the Audiology Clinic at your local medical center to schedule an appointment. Find VA Locations | Veterans Affairs
- 3. The audiologist will test your hearing. The hearing test will help the audiologist determine, if hearing aids are appropriate.
- 4. When hearing aids are appropriate, the audiologist will discuss options based on your hearing loss, lifestyle, and personal needs. The audiologist and the Veteran make the decision together regarding hearing aids and other assistive technology.

## **FAQs**

- 1. Do I need to be enrolled in primary care in order to receive hearing aids? No. If you are eligible for VA healthcare, you may contact Audiology directly.
- 2. Do I need to have a referral from my primary care provider to see Audiology? *No. Audiology is a direct schedule service. Once enrolled, any Veteran can contact Audiology for an appointment.*
- 3. Is there any cost for hearing aids through the VA? There is no cost for hearing aids from the VA. Veterans may be required to pay a co-pay for each visit based on eligibility to receive services.
- 4. Do I need to be service-connected to receive hearing aids? *No. Any Veteran eligible to receive healthcare may receive hearing aids.*
- 5. Do I need a hearing test to receive hearing aids? Yes. The VA provides prescription hearing aids which require a hearing test. A hearing test allows the hearing aids to be fit precisely for the Veteran.
- 6. What types of hearing aids does the VA provide? The VA provides premium, state-of-the-art hearing aids from multiple manufacturers. VA provides the full range of sizes for hearing aids.

## Website resources:

<u>Hearing Aids - Rehabilitation and Prosthetic Services (va.gov)</u>
<u>Don't Let Hearing Loss Sneak Up on You - My HealtheVet - My HealtheVet (va.gov)</u>
<u>Audiology-FactSheet.pdf (va.gov)</u>

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