



Audiology & Hearing Aids

of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

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www.hearingcarefl.com

a member of AUDIGY GROUP

# SOUNDNEWS

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 2 • SUMMER 2010

## Keep your knowledge in check

*New hearing instrument technology to consider*

Is it time to trade up? From crude trumpets and horns to tiny bean-sized devices, hearing instrument technology continues to evolve. So the next time you get your hearing checked, remember to ask us about the latest technology and then decide if it's time for an upgrade. The beauty is, with our 75-day trial period, you can check out many new features firsthand—risk-free!

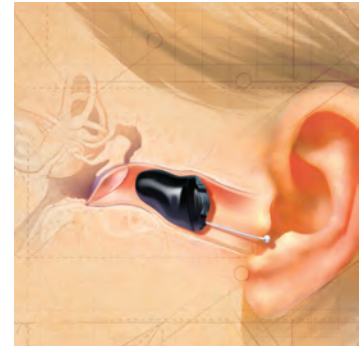
✓ Digital hearing devices have been on the market for over two decades. Since their introduction, they continue to improve and offer superior processing,

as well as other benefits, over analog instruments.

✓ Consider investing in a hearing device conditioning system, such as Dry & Store®. While you sleep, the system removes moisture, dries earwax, kills germs, and deodorizes your hearing instruments. The result is fewer repairs and better sound quality.

✓ For those of you that aren't candidates for other "deep canal" hearing devices, consider the AGX9is. Not only is the AGX9is 100% custom, invisible when worn,

digital and fully programmable, but its natural sound is virtually feedback free—no more whistling or buzzing! These devices can even be removed by the wearer daily for better ear health.



### Deborah Kupchik Brooks, Au.D., CCC-A, F-AAA

#### Doctor of Audiology

##### "Welcome"



Deborah Kupchik Brooks is an experienced Doctor of Audiology

who recently joined us from the New York Metro area.

Dr. Brooks received her undergraduate education in Communication Disorders from the University of Wisconsin, Madison and her Master's degree from the renowned Central Institute for the Deaf at Washington University in

St. Louis, MO. Dr. Brooks then completed her Doctor of Audiology degree at Salus University outside Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. Brooks worked at and ran the Cochlear Implant Support Group at the well known League for the Hard of Hearing (Center for Hearing and Communication) in New York City for over 5 years before starting her own private practice in Manhattan.

Dr. Brooks specializes in assistive hearing technology, Bluetooth connectivity, FM

systems and aural rehabilitation. She has experience with Tinnitus Retraining Therapy and has extensive experience working alongside ENT doctors.

Dr. Brooks has been AudigyCertified™ and has received extensive training to provide you with quality care and excellence in service that you deserve.

Dr. Brooks lives in downtown West Palm Beach with her husband, Adam and their beloved Cockapoo, Madison.

### Patient Corner

How has your life changed since receiving a hearing system? We would love to hear from you! Send us your success story and we may publish it in a future newsletter.

Please send your information to [sbevan@hearingcarefl.com](mailto:sbevan@hearingcarefl.com)

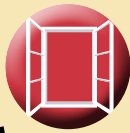
**CHECK OUT**  
our Patient Appreciation offers on back!

# I'll Have the Scallops and Hold the Loud Noise

*Maximize your listening experience while dining in a restaurant*

When you dine out with friends, you don't expect to find yourself in the middle of an echo chamber. But that's often what happens to those with hearing difficulties, especially in restaurants with sleek hardwood floors, high ceilings, wall-to-wall windows, and, of course, the loud music playing in the background better suited for a rock concert than a dining experience.

Here are the five main areas to avoid when eating out.



## OPEN WINDOWS

Chirping birds may be nice, but noise from passing cars and sidewalk traffic can be an obstacle to better hearing.



## KITCHEN

Even in the quietest of restaurants, the kitchen is still one of the loudest areas. Avoid sitting near the kitchen door and you'll enjoy much more of your dinner conversation.



## RESTROOMS

The most heavily trafficked area of a restaurant is often the hallway to and from the public restrooms.



## WAITER STATION

The clink of glasses and dishes can easily be a distraction when you're seated next to the waiter station.



## FRONT DOOR

With each new customer walking in the door comes more noise and another distraction from your own dinner conversation.

## So, Where Should You Sit?

Public places present a challenge for the hearing device user. Here are some tips to help you hear your best so you can enjoy dinner out with friends and family.

- Don't be shy. Tell the host, waiter and your dining companions you have a hearing loss, and request they slow down their speech, speak a little louder and face you directly while talking— you'll be glad you did.
- If your hearing devices are set to "directional," remember to sit with your back to the main source of noise.
- Remember, noisy environments affect everyone's hearing, even those without hearing difficulties.
- Find carpeted restaurants with rolling chairs, plants and sound-absorbent materials on the tables and walls.
- Choose less busy days and times to dine out.
- Dine with a smaller number of people.
- Request that the staff turn down background music.

# Communication is a Two-Way Street

**Conversation is a collaborative effort between speaker and listener. The following suggestions will help both the normal hearing (in this case, the speaker) and the hearing impaired (the listener) understand each other better:**

## **SPEAKERS**

### ***Speak in a slightly louder normal voice.***

Do not shout. Shouting distorts not only the voice quality, but also the lip movements. Speak at a slightly slower rate. Do not exaggerate lip movements.

### ***Be visible.***

First, attract the hearing impaired person's attention (e.g., tap them lightly on the shoulder). Remember to sit close to the person, preferably 4-6 feet away, at eye-level when speaking.

Proximity may be the single most important thing you can do to help the conversation's success. Avoid eating, gum chewing, or covering your mouth when speaking. In addition, adequate lighting should be available.

### ***Use facial expressions.***

This can help the listener remain on-topic and pick up on cues of the conversation. Appropriate gestures, if not overdone, can be helpful. Try to avoid too many visual distractions.

## **LISTENERS**

### ***Inform others.***

Do not hide the fact that you wear a hearing instrument or that you depend on speech reading to understand conversation. By letting others know about your situation, you will make communication easier for all involved.

### ***Select your setting.***

If possible, avoid communicating in a noisy place. The best environments for conversations are those free of background noises. When convenient, turn off the television, radio, stereo, dishwasher or other background noises, and shut windows and doors to enhance communication.



### ***Learn speech reading.***

Consider taking a course in lip reading or practice it on your own. Speech reading can't replace a hearing instrument, but it can supplement your use of a device and will make conversations easier to understand.

**For more tips on communicating with hearing loss, contact your AudigyCertified™ professional.**





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Watch our educational video on hearing at  
[www.hearingcarefl.com](http://www.hearingcarefl.com)

JULY 27-29

# PATIENT APPRECIATION DAYS

Call today to take advantage of our exclusive offers!

UP TO **\$500** TRADE-UP CREDIT

toward a new AGX5, 7 or 9 two-device hearing system when you trade in your old devices.

Offer expires August 31, 2010.

Cannot be combined with any other promotional discount.



**\$50** GIFT CERTIFICATE

to a local restaurant to experience better hearing with a loved one with the purchase of a two-device AGX system.

Offer expires August 31, 2010.

**3 + 3 + 3**

YEARS FREE BATTERIES

YEARS LOSS & DAMAGE INSURANCE

YEAR WARRANTY

on AGX5, 7 & 9 two-device hearing systems.  
Guaranteed in writing.

**10% OFF REPAIRS**

Free in-house repairs on most makes and models. Shell repairs only. Does not include recasing or circuitry. Call for details.

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As always, 75-day trial and 100% Service Satisfaction Guarantee in writing on new technology solutions.

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