

# Experience the Freedom of Better Hearing!

# Spring is a time of rejuvenation and growth.

Spring symbolizes hope and new beginnings. Are you ready to hear the sounds of spring, as the birds begin to chirp and we move into another season? As the weather starts to warm up and the flowers begin to bloom, it's time to say goodbye to winter.

Just like the seasons change, our hearing health can change too. Effective communication is at the heart of personal and professional relationships. That's why annual hearing checkups and regular cleaning of your hearing aids are so important.

When we actively listen to others, we fully focus on what they are saying. But if you or someone you love doesn't hear well, it can be difficult to communicate as we miss the voices of our precious family and making memories together. Will you be able to hear the laughter on the playground and the beautiful music at the symphony? Time with loved ones is something we cannot recapture.

Untreated hearing loss can also affect our quality of life as we age and lead to depression and isolation. Multiple studies over the years show that untreated hearing loss is a contributor to dementia. I encourage you to take control of your health and schedule annual exams not only with Swift Audiology, but your primary care physician and eye doctor as well. How we take care of ourselves today can determine our quality of life as we age.

Our patients are our best referral sources, and I'd like to personally thank you for your referrals to family and friends. There is nothing better than when patients share their hearing care experiences with the Swift Audiology team through online reviews and referrals. We take pride in helping our patients maintain optimal hearing health.

So our staff may enjoy time with their families during the Easter holiday, our offices will be closed on Good Friday (March 29, 2024) and Easter Monday (April 1, 2024).

From our Family to Yours - Happy Spring!

Deb

Deb Swift & the Swift Audiology Team



# Comorbidities and Hearing Loss

## What is a Comorbidity?

A comorbidity is a disease or medical condition that is simultaneously present with another in patients. Having a particular condition may also increase your risk of developing others. Did you know that hearing loss can actually be connected to other illnesses and have harmful effects on our health and well-being?



#### Tinnitus

90% of people with tinnitus also have hearing loss.



#### **Eye Health**

Vision helps you identify where a sound is coming from.



### **Ototoxicity**

There are more than 200 medications on the market today that are known to cause hearing loss.



## **Smoking**

**Current smokers** have a 70% higher risk of having hearing loss than nonsmokers.



## **Depression**

**Uncorrected hearing** loss gives rise to poorer quality of life.



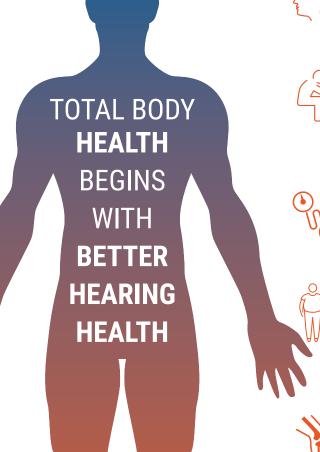
#### **Heart Health**

The inner ear is extremely sensitive to blood flow.



#### **Diabetes**

Hearing loss is twice as common in people with diabetes compared to those without.





experience a 30-40% greater decline in thinking abilities.



#### Isolation

Adults 50 years and older with untreated hearing loss are more likely to report depression, anxiety, anger and frustration.



#### **Hypertension**

There is a significant association between high blood pressure and hearing loss.



**Higher body mass index** (BMI) and larger waist circumference are associated with increased risk of hearing loss in women.



### **Osteoporosis**

A study linked osteoporosis and hearing loss, theorizing that demineralization of the three middle ear bones may contribute to a conductive hearing impairment.



## Safety/Balance

People with mild hearing loss (25db) are 3 times more likely to have a history of falling. Every additional 10 decibels of hearing loss increases the chances of falling by 1.4 Times.

# When was the last time you came in to get your hearing aids cleaned? Are you due for an appointment?



Here at Swift Audiology, we have an array of tools and machinery to help thoroughly clean your hearing aids. We recommend a professional cleaning at least every 3 months, even if you clean your aids at home regularly. This is simply because better hearing starts with keeping your aids thoroughly clean.

Hearing aids are a lot like other electronic devices

– they operate best when they are well maintained.

Sweat, earwax, body oils, and dry skin can all cause build-up in the hearing aid. This build-up can also muffle your hearing aids' sound quality or cause the microphone to be completely blocked and the aid to appear as not working.

If you've ever called in for a "non-working" aid issue, you know that we typically suggest you come in for a cleaning first. About 90% of the time, the cleaning fixes the issue, but if it doesn't, the Patient Care Coordinator can suggest sending out the aid for repair right away. Swift cleanings are done free of charge as part of your service package. If your aids are no longer in service, you may still have them cleaned for just \$15/aid.

At each cleaning appointment we: wipe down the aids, use the Ultravac tool to vacuum and blow out all the components of the aids, replace the wax filters and domes, then clean underneath them, check the receivers (and replace for free if under warranty and necessary), and use the professional dryer to remove moisture. Why do you need an appointment? Professional cleanings take approximately 5-10 minutes. Making an appointment in advance ensures that someone is available to service your devices and that we have the supplies we need.



# Thank you David!

If you've been to our South Hills and Washington offices, you know how much we like our Norman Rockwell pictures.

Deb would like to thank our patient, David, for the new pictures he brought her on his recent visit.





Learn more about better hearing solutions at swiftaudiology.com



facebook.com/swiftaudiology

Email us at **hello@swiftaudiology.com** to subscribe to our e-newsletter.

## Staff News

# Congratulations to our HR Manager, Rachelle, and her sweetheart, Jason.

They were married on Friday, October 13, 2023. The newlyweds met in 2015 and have

been sharing their lives together ever since. We wish them a lifetime of love, joy, and happiness as they embark upon the next chapter.





# Word Search

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AUDIOLOGY
RELATIONSHIPS
COMORBIDITY
HEARING AIDS
CLEANING

TV VOLUME

Play this puzzle online at: https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/6698416



## 3 Locations Serving the Greater Pittsburgh Area

#### Washington

2107 N. Franklin Drive, Suite 2 Washington, PA 15301 (724) 222-9010

#### **South Hills**

1500 Oxford Drive, Suite 110 Bethel Park, PA 15102 (412) 851-9500

#### **North Hills**

6000 Babcock Blvd. Suite 105 Pittsburgh, PA 15237 (412) 364-8338