

“ Thank You! ”



A heartfelt thanks for making this possible.

We are proud to announce that all three of our locations have won Best of the Best for their excellence and quality service. Swift Audiology has always taken pride in how we care for our patients. Knowing that this is not overlooked in the greater Pittsburgh communities we serve is so rewarding. Helping people hear better and reconnect with families and loved ones has always been our passion, and it continues to be at the forefront of everything we do. Educating and informing our patients, their families, and the general public about the importance of hearing health and its connection to overall health has been one of our driving forces. We truly care about our patients and their well-being.

Winning these awards solidifies our dedication and compassion.

We truly value our relationships with you and your loved ones. We humbly accept this honor and promise to continue to provide you with the best service and care possible.

Sincerely,

Deb & Staff





Allergy Season and Cleaning

81 million people in the United States suffer from seasonal allergies.

How are Allergies and Hearing Loss Related?

If you are one of the people affected by seasonal allergies, you may have noticed trouble hearing – on top of your sneezes, sniffles, and other bothersome afflictions. Symptoms from allergies extend beyond the nasal passageways, in which irritation and inflammation can impact how well we hear.

Seasonal and Permanent Allergies

What are allergies? Allergies are an immune response to allergens, substances, or objects our bodies view as threatening. These allergens can include pollen, pet hair, and dust, to name a few. Allergies can also flare up during certain times of the year, like springtime when various pollens in the air cause what is commonly known as “hay fever.” Some people experience allergies all year round.

When our bodies identify allergens, we work against them by creating antibodies. When antibodies are created, histamines are also released. Many people take antihistamine

medications to prevent the release of histamines and experience some relief.

How Allergies Impact Hearing

- 1. Conductive hearing loss:** Fluid buildup in the middle ear can prevent sound waves from moving normally.
- 2. Tinnitus:** Ringing in the ears that can interfere with hearing.
- 3. Eustachian tube blockage:** Swelling and mucus from allergies can block the Eustachian tube, which equalizes ear pressure. This can cause a feeling of fullness or pressure in the ears.

When To Visit Your Hearing Health Provider

Most people fully recover from hearing loss related to allergies because it is usually not permanent. However, if you are concerned about hearing loss, whether related to allergies or not, contact Swift Audiology to schedule an appointment with one of our knowledgeable providers.



The value of hearing aid maintenance and care

Do you or someone you know have hearing aids lying around in a drawer?

Sometimes patients tell us that their friends have hearing aids, but they don't work.

Many of our first-time patients are surprised by the amount of maintenance and care hearing aids require. Hearing aids are exposed to external factors that might affect their performance and longevity. While professional cleanings are necessary to ensure your hearing aid is functioning properly, several home care practices will extend the life and functionality of your devices between those quarterly clinic appointments.

Wax, moisture, and debris are the biggest culprits for hearing aids not working well. Hearing aids come in various shapes and designs, but every model has three parts that require regular care: the microphone, the receiver, and the shell (custom piece)

Here are ten tips for cleaning your hearing aids at home:

- 1. Handle carefully** – Modern hearing aids are made to be durable, but it is still important to handle them carefully to avoid dropping or damaging them.
- 2. Wash your hands** – Make sure your hands are free of dirt and oils before handling your hearing aids to reduce exposure to harmful debris and contaminants.
- 3. Avoid moisture and heat** – Always store your hearing aids in a cool, dry place when not in use, and always remove them before

being exposed to water, i.e. the shower, pool, etc.

- 4. Cleaning the shell** – For custom in-the-ear hearing aids, the shell constitutes the outer surface, where earwax and debris can affect the fit of the hearing aid or hinder moving parts such as the volume control. The creases and grooves of the shell are most likely to accumulate debris and should be cleaned periodically.
- 5. Avoid excess moisture or chemicals** – While a damp cloth or tissue can help remove stubborn wax or debris, it is important never to use too much water or any cleaning chemicals, as they can get into the hearing aid and damage its components.
- 6. Use a mild brush** – Many hearing aids come with a gentle cleaning brush for removing difficult buildup.
- 7. Clean the microphone and receiver** – The microphone and receiver are delicate components in hearing aids. It is important to handle and clean them carefully when removing earwax and debris.
- 8. Turn the hearing aid upside down** – Turning your hearing aid upside down so that the microphone port faces downward, will allow any loosened debris to fall out and away from the microphone instead of inside it.
- 9. Earwax prevention components** – Many hearing aids come with wax prevention systems, such as guards or filters to prevent wax buildup. These should be changed regularly.
- 10. Most importantly** – Schedule routine professional cleanings every 3 months! We will be happy to demonstrate any of these helpful tips and supply you with filters. If you are unsure when you had your last professional cleaning, you're probably overdue!

Call us today to schedule your hearing aid cleaning.

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

ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to our team members for their years of service and commitment to patient care.

Bridget is celebrating 4 years as a team member at Swift. Time flies when you're doing great work! Thank you, Bridget, for your display of dedication and professionalism every day.



Tammy, a hearing healthcare provider in our Bethel Park office is celebrating 13 years. Her contributions have truly helped shape our success. Her work ethic is exemplary, and her patients will be the first to tell you how committed she is to going above and beyond.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Dr. Lauren and Kyle Fitzpatrick, who proudly welcomed their daughter, Sallie, to the world on February 6, 2025. We're tickled pink over her arrival. Dr. Lauren will take some time away to enjoy her baby girl and return to the office sometime after Easter. We wish their family the very best!



Spring Word Search

F	D	K	I	O	M	I	C	R	O	P	H	O	N	E
I	P	J	R	W	G	P	V	X	L	X	S	V	D	W
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P	R	P	V	S	R	G	Q	K	R	Z	P	S	G	O
Z	I	I	G	G	L	H	L	J	J	W	B	B	C	B

hearing aid	microphone	cleaning	filter
receiver	spring	brush	wax guard

3 Locations Serving the Greater Pittsburgh Area

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