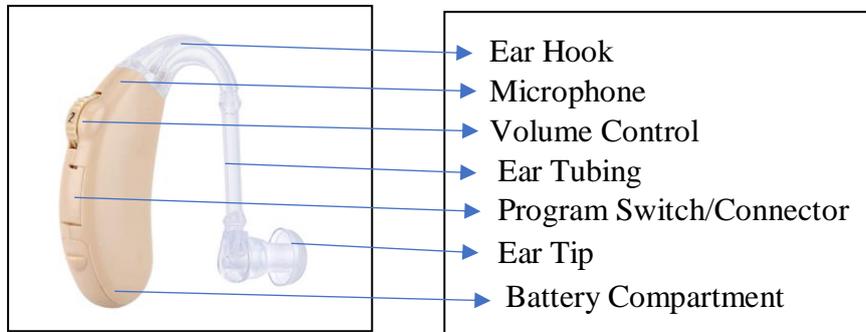


CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF DIGITAL BTE HEARING AIDS

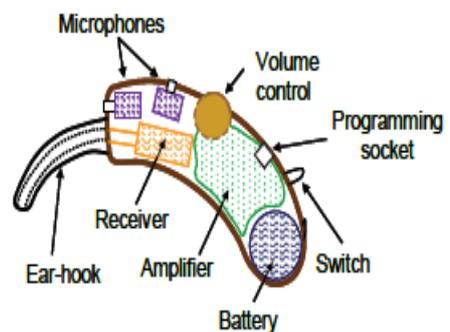
Know your BTE hearing aid:

Your digitally programmable behind-the-ear (BTE) hearing aid contains the following parts.



Microphone:

- It is near the ear hook and is inside the body of the hearing aid. An inlet tube near the ear hook allows sounds to reach the microphone from outside.
- It is highly sensitive to oil, water and dust. Hence, it is advised not to wear BTE hearing aids in rain and not to grease the hairs with excess oil.
- In case of less or hollow sound, the inlet tube may be clogged. It is advisable to clean the inlet tube with a soft fine pick or consult an audiologist for help.
- Do not use a damp cloth or hard brush to clean the microphone inlet.
- Do not cover the microphone inlet with cloth, as this distorts the sounds.
- Do not expose the microphone inlet to excessive heat, moisture, X-rays, etc.



Volume Control:

- It can be either in the form of roller switch or rocker switch by which sounds can be made louder or softer.
- In a roller model, it generally has numbers from 1 to 5 marked on it.
- It works just like the volume control on a radio.
- When increased to a higher number, the sound increases, and when set to a lower number, the sound decreases.
- If the sound does not increase by increasing the volume, then replace the battery or ask an audiologist for help.

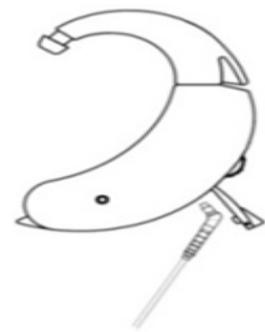
Program Switch:

- This switch is used to change the acoustic programs as per the need of the listener.
- Generally, only one program is kept till the person adapts himself with the hearing aid.
- Pressing the program switch will change the acoustic program and is generally heard in the form of a brief beep sound.

- Opening and closing the battery compartment generally resets the program to default.

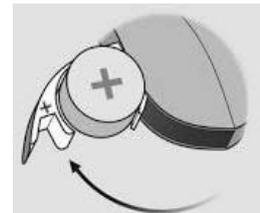
Connector and programming cables:

- The connector contains the socket for connection of the 4 pin programming cable with the computer interface for programming of the hearing aid.
- Do not misuse the connector socket as it will lead to loose connection between the socket and the cable.



Battery compartment:

- Functions as the on-off switch.
- Closed – hearing aid “on”; Open – hearing aid – “off”
- Has a handle to open the battery door.



Ear Hook:

- The ear hook connects the BTE hearing aid with the ear tubing and provides a good curve fit over the pinna.
- It is usually tightly joined with the hearing aid body to prevent leakage of sound (sounds like squealing – e.g. /piiiiiiiiii.....).
- Ensure not to detach the ear hook from the hearing aid body while cleaning the hearing aid.
- If the ear hook is clogged, clean the debris with a soft fine toothpick.
- If squealing sound is present, check whether the ear hook is damaged or loose. Refitting a loose ear hook generally reduces the squealing sound.

Ear tubing:

- The ear tubing is generally made up of soft plastic or silicone
- The ear tubing connects the ear hook with the eartip.
- In an earmold, the ear tubing is directly connected to the ear hook.
- In case of loose connection or damaged ear tubing, squealing sound is present continuously or intermittently. Refitting or replacing the ear tubing will solve the problem.
- If the ear tubing is clogged, clean the debris with a soft fine toothpick.



Eartip:

- It is made of soft plastic or silicone and is of 3 sizes.
- Ensure that the ear tubing fits firmly into the eartip.
- To insert the eartip into the ear, grasp the eartip between your thumb and index finger, placing the eartip in the canal of the ear. Press the eartip gently into the ear while pulling the ear outwards and downwards.
- Clean the eartip with warm water and soap for preventing clogging of sound bore.
- Use a thin wire to clear out any wax that may be blocking the passage.
- Never clean or blow the eartip when it is still attached to the hearing aid.
- Dry the eartip completely before attaching it back to the ear tubing.
- Have your ear cleaned if you have excess wax in your ears before using the hearing aid.
- Do not use hearing aids if you have active ear discharge.
- In case of sound leakage or inadequate fitting ask an audiologist for an earmold.



Battery:

- Zinc air button cells are used which has voltage output of 1.45 Volts.
- P-13 size batteries are used with your hearing aids and has been supplied in strips of 6.
- While using the battery, open the strip and take out a single cell.
- The battery will have an adhesive tab covering it on one side.
- Remove the tab and place the battery in the battery compartment.
- Ensure that the positive terminal of the battery (marked +) is in alignment with the positive terminal of the battery compartment.
- One single battery has a battery life of approximately 12 -15 days and varies depending upon usage.
- Never use the button cells used in watches as it will damage the hearing aid circuitry.
- Keep the battery compartment open if you are not going to use the hearing aid for a long time.
- It is best to put the adhesive tab back on the battery if it is not going to be used for a long time or the battery will discharge.
- Dispose the batteries safely
- Keep the batteries out of the reach of children.



Hookies/Huggies:

- It is made up of silicone
- In children this additional loop helps the hearing aid to remain firmly anchored over the pinna thus preventing fall off.
- Ensure that the hookies/huggies fit adequately i.e. neither too tight nor too loose.



- ✚ When not using, keep the hearing aids in the box provided along with the hearing aids with the battery door open.

For any queries contact:

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