A Few Tech Things That You Need to Know NOW

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The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) believes that information about products and services that could benefit people with hearing loss should be made available to consumers to help them make informed decisions about their hearing health care.

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First...
How To Watch This Presentation
How To Watch This Presentation

The slides will be made available to all after the presentation. It is also being recorded so you will be able re-watch it later.
How To Watch This Presentation

So just relax, listen, and enjoy the show!

Take a few notes, if you want to, then come back to the slides later if you’re interested in something particular

Just try to get the general ideas
How To Watch This Presentation

Consider:
Could anything presented here be helpful?

If so, explore, be patient, use Google for further information and feel free to ask questions.
GENERAL TIPS

HLAA
hearingloss.org
CORONAVIRUS

News and Resources

READ MORE
News and Resources
Also...
One More Important Button:
GENERAL TIPS
Batteries
Buy batteries in bulk

For example:
Local Pharmacy: $17.99 for 16 ($1.12 per battery)

Online retailer: $22.90 for 80 ($0.29 per battery)
GENERAL TIPS
Batteries
Put them everywhere
GENERAL TIPS

Batteries

Put them everywhere
GENERAL TIPS

Batteries

Put them everywhere
Adjustments/Repairs
Remote Audiology (aka tele-audiology)

Check with your audiologist if this is available for your device
Adjustments/Repairs
Packing/Cleaning Hearing Aids for Return

Follow audiologist’s/manufacturer’s recommendations
Do not use alcohol (maybe)
Do not use Purell, bleach, etc. (definitely)
The audiologist will treat all devices as “contaminated”
Audiologists will wear protective gear, and clean them thoroughly
Consider placing a note in the box
In a Pinch Solutions
Spares
Older hearing aids

Be sure to clean thoroughly before using

Be sure you have the proper batteries!
Over the Counter Hearing Devices

Possibly usable as a spare for people with moderate hearing losses
Over the Counter Hearing Devices

Bose Hearphones
Over the Counter Hearing Devices

Nuheara
IQ boost
SmartPhone Apps

Petralex  EarMachine  ListenApp
SmartPhone Apps

Must use wired headphones. Bluetooth will not work well

Suitable for mild to moderate, possibly moderate/severe hearing losses
SmartPhone Apps

Communication Apps

**Typing Back**
- Big Note (iOS & Android)
- Google Keep (iOS & Android)

**Phone Calls**
- Convo (iOS & Android)
- Purple (iOS & Android)
- Sorenson (iOS & Android)
- IP Relay (iOS & Android)

**Captioned Phone Apps**
- CaptionCall (iOS)
- Clear Captions (iOS)
- Hamilton (Android)
- InnoCaption (iOS & Android)
- Sprint Web CapTel (Web page)

Courtesy: Eric Nelson
Weill-Cornell
Additional devices

Pocketalker
Medical Visits

“Heal!”
Medical Visits

Consider bringing your own. Your HCP may not have them but might be willing to wear one.

Transparent masks

Leave with HCP
Medical Visits

Pencil (or pen) and paper
Medical Visits

Be sure to wipe clean after use!

Remote mic
Medical Visits

Smartphone with speech to text app
Medical Visits

Wireless keyboard connects to phone.

Give keyboard to doctor or nurse. You hold the phone, and you will be able to see what they type.

Clean keyboard after use.
Hospital Visits

“Hmm—I don’t like the looks of that eye.”
Hospital Visits

Bring along:

Older or cheap aids
Case for the hearing aids
Possibly a card or sign explaining hearing loss

"Hm... I don't like the looks of that eye."
Video Calls/Conferencing
Tips for Better Video Calls and Conferencing

Sit close to your computer or phone
  Easier to see you
  Better sound pickup
Speak in a normal tone, maybe a little bit slower
Adjust the lighting for clarity (Google “how to light a video call”)
Be patient with technical problems. If they’re really bad, just hang up and re-connect
Blur Background (if offered)
Blur Background (if offered)

Skype

Not blurred
Blur Background (if offered)

Skype Blurred
Sonic Cloud with Zoom

soniccloud.com
At least one new hearing aid will connect wirelessly and directly to a computer. Works with Bluetooth. Set up instructions easily available on the web.
Mini-Mic wireless streaming to compatible CI/HA of

Here’s what you’ll need:
Remote mic for HA/CI
Has an audio jack

Remote mic for HA/CI
1/8” male to 1/8” male cable

Connect cable to both mic’s audio jack and the computer
Mini-Mic wireless streaming to compatible CI/HA of
Mini-Mic wireless streaming to compatible CI/HA of
“TV” loop system can be connected to your computer’s audio out jack
Using the loop to hear sound when ZOOM conferencing

Loop to computer connections

Contacta HLD3 Loop Amplifier

Laptop

Audio patch cord

Loop wire

Headphones out jack
Even More Tips for Better Video Calls and Conferencing
Tips for Better Video Calls and Conferencing

Ethernet, not Wi-Fi
NOT a phone cable
You may need an adapter
Tips for Better Video Calls and Conferencing
Tips for Better Video Calls and Conferencing

Use a headset with a boom mic
Captions

The gold standard remains CART, aka captioning by a live person. Automatic captions can be very good, but...
At the moment, in general, you have to pay for the good ones. Each video service handles auto-captioning differently (if they offer it at all).
Use google to find out what each service does.
Otter
Good speech to text transcription
Available for phones, tablets, and computers
Some nice advanced features BUT...
Otter is *not* an accessibility app
It is a productivity app for business

There are other excellent speech to text apps
including AVA and Google Live Transcribe
Launch Otter
Place phone near the computer
You can pause the transcription

Press stop when done
Tap a word and the recording plays from that spot!

Useful for re-listening to lectures or meetings.
To see the recording first tap here
Tap My Conversations
Otter Additional Features

Transcribes recordings
Email transcriptions
Collaboration features
Web-based application

Paid features include extra minutes, zoom integration
Thank You
Roxana Rotundo
Shari Eberts
Holly Cohen
Carla Beyer-Smolin
Stephanie Czuhajewski
Alicia Spoor
Larry Guterman
Doug Beck
HLAA Staff