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## **HLAA Position Statement on Insurance Coverage of Hearing Aids**

**Synopsis: HLAA recommends that health insurance cover the full cost of acquiring hearing aids.**

An estimated 48 million Americans have hearing loss, which limits their full participation in society. Yet up to 85% of people who could benefit from hearing aids do not have them.

Cost is a key barrier to ownership. Many health insurance providers do not cover the full cost of hearing aids. In some cases, there is simply no coverage; in others the cost is only partially covered.

HLAA recommends that health insurance should cover the full cost of acquiring hearing aids. Currently “hearing aids” are medical devices that are dispensed by medical professionals. As FDA regulation around hearing aids evolves, HLAA will revisit this policy statement, and consider over-the-counter hearing aids and other hearing assistance devices.

**Approved by the HLAA board June 2018**