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Hearing Aids and Computer Technology

www.starkey.com	consumer counseling
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http://www.sonitusmedical.com	dental implant
http://www.envoymedical.com/about-us	Esteem surgically implanted hearing aid
http://www.hamiltoncaptel.com/	captioned telephone
http://www.relayiowa.com/tai/about_tai.htm	Iowa Telecommunications
http://www.itactty.org/pages/about-itac.php	Illinois Telecommunications
http://www.fda.gov/downloads/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/UCM187245.pdf	FDA consumer suggestions
www.hearingaidtaxcredit.com	Hearing Aid Tax Credit

Unspoken Rules of Talking & Listening (it doesn't matter if there is hearing loss)

Responsibilities of the Talker

Speak in a way to make yourself heard

- Move your mouth and talk slowly
- Look at the person

Make sure the topic is clear

- Do not go from topic to topic without some warning
- Occasionally provide clues, repeat the name of the person, place or topic

Turn off background noise

Treat your family with the same respect you would treat a stranger

Be patient if the listener needs a moment to process what you said

Repeat more slowly, then if necessary, repeat the third time using different wording

Find a different way to say "Never Mind!"

Screaming hurts feelings and makes you less clear.

Rules for the Listener

If you have hearing loss, use your hearing aids!

Look at the person when they are talking to you

- acknowledge that they spoke by nodding, saying yes, no, ok, etc.

If you did not understand, explain why

- "say that slower, louder" "Repeat the last part" "spell the name" "where was that?"
- Find a different way to say "WHAT?"

Repeat important information-dates, phone numbers, spellings, etc.

If you need to talk one on one, don't be afraid to lead the person to a quiet area

Don't feel you need to explain your hearing loss if you don't want to