



Standard of Practice Hearing Aid Care

This standard of practice is to support the CSW in providing safe, respectful and effective personal care to the public population in a dignified and ethical approach. Standards of Practice outline the expectations of the CSW and their responsibility in the delivery of care.

Hearing Aid Care

A person's quality of life may be impacted by the loss of or an ill-fitting or malfunctioning hearing aid. Hearing Aid Care is the act of assisting or performing the insertion or removal of an aide from a person(s) ear. Support may include the turning on and off of an aide, as well as changing batteries when needed and the cleaning of the device as per manufacturer's instructions.

Equipment needed for the care of a hearing aid might include but is not be limited to:

- Batteries
- Cleaning brush or loop
- Storage Container
- Soft towel and washcloth
- Gloves

A CSW may assist the person(s) with the following care for a hearing aid:

- Always explain to the person(s) what you are going to do.
- Gather your equipment needed to clean the aid.
- Ask the person(s) if they know how to care for their aid and have them explain how they clean it.

The hearing aid should be stored in the container provided when not in use. Always follow the manufacturer's directions.

Check the batteries to see if they are functioning by turning on the device to "M" or microphone position, turn the volume control

to high and cup the aid in your hands. You should be able to hear a high-pitched sound. If no sound is heard, replace the battery matching the plus (+) and the minus (-) signs. Batteries generally need replacing after one week of continuous wear.

Wash the ear mould with soap and water using a clean face cloth. Do not submerge or wash any other part of the hearing aid. Use the loop or brush provided with the aid to clean the holes in the aid of ear wax. Do not jam the wax deeper into the holes as this could cause damage to the aid. Dry the aid thoroughly.

If required, assist the person(s) to insert the aid into their ear. Make sure the aid is turned off when you do this.

Turn the hearing aid on. Adjust the volume gradually to a comfort level for the client. Usually this is a hearing distance of 3-4 feet away from the client. Volume controls usually adjust to a higher volume by turning the control toward the nose and to lower the volume by turning the control away from the nose. (Check the manufacturer's instructions) Ask the person(s) if they are comfortable and if they can hear you.

Clean and replace the equipment. Discard disposable items in a plastic bag