

by David Glaser, Au.D., CCC-A, FAAA Doctor of Audiology

## **GOOD THINGS IN SMALL PACKAGES**

Anyone who harbors concerns about the aesthetics of hearing instruments should know that the "completely-in-canal" (CIC) hearing instrument is all but invisible to onlookers. The CIC hearing instrument fits neatly inside the ear canal, where it collects sound waves in a manner that most closely resembles the ear's natural hearing ability. Because the microphone of the CIC instrument sits in the ear canal, background noise caused by wind and other uncontrollable sounds is limited. While its cosmetic and functional appeal is widespread, the size of the CIC instrument limits its suitability. Some users may find that the instrument's diminutive size reduces its accessibility and ease of use, in which case a larger "in-the-canal" instrument may be more appropriate.

## **TIP OF THE WEEK**

If cosmetics are a major concern when pursuing hearing instruments, the receiver in the canal style is a viable option.

*P.S.* Completely-in-canal (CIC) and in-the-canal (ITC) instruments are most suitable for those with mild to moderate hearing losses.

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