



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

FOR THE OPEN-MINDED

If you think that a Bluetooth headset wireless phone is an innovative piece of technology, take a look at the latest in hearing instrument technology. An “open-fit” hearing instrument is very similar to a behind-the-ear hearing device except that it is much smaller. In fact, an open-fit hearing instrument is more discreet than a Bluetooth headset. The part of the instrument (case) that sits behind the ear is housed in an elongated plastic shell. This part of the instrument feeds sound to the wearer’s ear through a thin, clear plastic tube with a very small tip that holds the tube in place inside the canal. Since no earmold is needed, wearers feel more comfortable wearing an open fit instrument.

TIP OF THE WEEK

Some hearing aid manufacturers have gone as far to make their products compatible with an iPhone, iPad, and iPod for your streaming pleasure.

P.S. Because an open-fit hearing instrument’s tip keeps the ear ventilated, it enables low frequency sounds to flow in and out of the ear without amplification.

AA-7