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Hearing loss is a dangerous condition that affects people of all ages. The inability to receive or understand sound from the environment may result in accident: a person who is unable to hear the sound of an approaching vehicle may be hit. However, this does not take away a sufferer's confidence in living his life normally. There are different types of hearing aid available that fit their specific condition. These types vary according to mechanism, installation, and the level of sound reception.

Some modern hearing aids include open-fit devices, disposable, consumer programmable, bone-anchored, and in-canal hearing aids. Each is designed to serve specific purposes aside from amplifying sound. Open-fit devices, for example, are designed with vented acrylic tip that helps reduce occlusion effect. When an object fills the outer portion of the ear canal, a booming echo-like sound of a person's own voice tends to form. This is caused by bone-conducted sound vibrations created by the response of the ear canal to the obstruction.

Most hearing aids require battery to work and most batteries are replaceable. The downside to this feature is the easy receding battery power which necessitates immediate battery replacement. Disposable hearing aids eliminate the need for replaceable batteries. The batteries of disposable hearing aids last longer than those of the conventional types. It helps use power sparingly and may tackle confusion issues in assessing the condition of the hearing aid when sound reception begins to fail.

Consumer programmable hearing aids are a rather sophisticated but advantageous type. It allows the user to adjust the setting of the hearing aid based with the help of a computer. This makes for better amplification and less side effect on the user's ears. If the setting cannot be balanced, the user can call the manufacturer to adjust it even remotely, a feature that allows technicians to repair hearing aids via a distance when issues only involve reception and feedback.

Conventional hearing aids have molds that fit into the ear canal. However, this is not appropriate for users who have no or incomplete ear canal to hold them. Doctors recommend bone anchored hearing aids in cases like this. This type of hearing aid, which is considered a prosthetic, is surgically implanted on the bone structure. Because of permanence, there are special techniques required to repair hearing aids of this type.

Some types of hearing aid have features that are focused on aesthetics. The invisible in canal hearing aid, for instance, have the same functional features as typical hearing aids but is installed deep into the ear bowl to conceal it. To repair hearing aids of this type has the same requirement as to repair the other types.

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