

# **Hearing Aid Guide**

# Life Mould

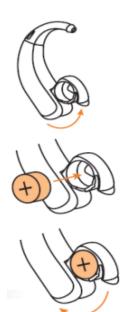


### **Changing the Battery**

1 Open the battery door



- 2. Remove coloured sticker from new battery, place battery in drawer with + symbol on battery + side up.
- 3. Close the battery drawer



### To Switch On and Off

To turn the hearing aid on close the battery door



To turn the hearing aid off open the battery door



### How to fit Hearing Aids with an Ear Mould

Hold the hearing aid behind your ear with the life mould facing towards your ear canal.

Make sure the mould is round the right way. Dot facing up.



Place the life mould in your ear canal with the retainer (if you have one) facing backwards.

Push the tip in as far as it will comfortably go, otherwise you won't hear as well as you should.



If there is a retainer, fold it backwards into the bowl of your ear. Sometimes, when it's new, a retainer doesn't stay in place, but after a few days it should mould itself to the shape of your ear.





Correctly fitted aid

### How to Clean a Life Mould

The step-by-step guide below shows you how to clean the tubing of your open ear fitting with a cleaning wire. Clean the mould with a wet wipe.

Your hearing aids are marked with colours for left and right aids. Left = Blue Right = Red. Your tubes and moulds also have red and blue markings to help you match them to the correct hearing aid. The coloured dots on your moulds help you orientate the mould. They should face up.



Red = Right



Blue = Left

The way you take off the tubing for cleaning is a bit different from one type of open ear fitting to another, so you'll need to check the instructions you've been given.











## **How to Change Life Mould Tubes**

Disconnect the old tubing as you would for cleaning it.

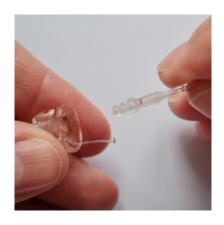




Pull the tube out of the mould. Do not worry about damaging the tube as it will be thrown away.

Hold the mould with the dot facing up.







Click the new tube into the mould, making sure the dot and tube are both facing up and the colour markings match i.e. red mark on tube & red dot on mould.





### **General Maintenance**

Your tube should be changed for a new one every 3 months

You can order replacement tubes from SARC if you are able to change it yourself. We will post you a supply of tubes for changing when needed.

When you put on your last tube please call us immediately and we will post you out some more.

If you would like to learn how to change your tubes, please view our training videos on our website; www.sarc-bid.org.uk or contact SARC for training.

If you are unable to change the tube yourself, please contact SARC for advice.

Batteries can be collected from most Milton Keynes G.P. surgeries. Please see the list in your hearing aid pack. Please recycle your used batteries.

# Troubleshooting Guide for Hearing Aids with Life Mould

#### No Sound

Check that the battery is the right way round. Replace the battery, preferably with one from a new packet.

If your hearing aid has programmes, it may be on the wrong programme or may be muted. Open and close your battery compartment to reset.

Separate the hearing aid by unscrewing the life tube. Switch the aid on and close your hand over the aid. If the aid now whistles there may be a blockage in the life tubes. Clean by putting the cleaning wire through the life tubes.

If the hearing aid still does not work you will need to make an appointment to have the hearing aid repaired. See your NHS hearing aid brown book and contact either - Audiology 01908 995199 or Adult Hearing Service 01908 725330.

### **Poor sound quality**

Check your life tube for moisture, or blockages of wax or debris. Clean with cleaning wire.

Check the tube for bends or breaks. Replace if necessary.

If your tube has been on for more than 3 months, replace it with a new one.

Otherwise contact SARC for advice (see the back page for contact details)

Have your ears checked by your GP for wax or infection

### My Hearing aid whistles when it is in my ear;

If your tube has been on for more than 3 months, replace it with a new one.

Check that your life mould is inserted correctly. The tube should sit 'flush' against the side of your ear. Ask SARC for advice if you have difficulty fitting your life mould. SARC will train you how to put it in.

Check to see whether the life mould is loose or damaged. Life moulds need replacing from time to time due to 'wear and tear'. Also over a period of time your ear can change shape.

Have your ears checked by your G.P. for wax or infection.

Please note that it is perfectly normal for a hearing aid to whistle when it is not in the ear, or when you cover your ear and hearing aid with your hand.

### Information taken from RNID - 'Life with Hearing Aids' booklet

### **HOW TO CONTACT SARC**

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