


TheyMayNotKnow.com
 FREE WEBINAR SERIES



Hearing Loss: Tech to the Rescue

4/6/22 with
 Joan Green M.A. CCC-SLP &
 Colleen Zenczak, Au.D. CCC-A


 www.innovativespeech.com

1

Accessibility Check



- ❖ You are muted 
- ❖ We can't see you 
- ❖ Close extra tabs and refresh if problems 
- ❖ Log out and in again as needed
- ❖ Live captioning enabled 
- ❖ Everyone will have access to on-demand recording- 2 weeks
- ❖ Explore view options


 www.innovativespeech.com

2

My unique lens/ Perspective




- Speech-language pathologist
- Assistive Technology Specialist
- Online Tech Coach
- Eldercare provider & mother of 4 young adults
- Focus on solutions
- Promote a happy, balanced, meaningful life


 www.innovativespeech.com

3

Joan L. Green




<https://www.innovativespeech.com>


 www.innovativespeech.com

4

Colleen Zenczak, Au.D. CCC-A

Audiologist

The Johns Hopkins Department of Otolaryngology

Sibley Hospital
 5255 Loughboro Rd., NW
 Rehab Department, First Floor

Suburban Outpatient Center
 6420 Rockledge Dr., Suite 4920
 Bethesda, MD 20817

Follow Johns Hopkins ENT on Instagram at @hopkins_ent




 www.innovativespeech.com

5

Participate

Let's help each other and connect!





 www.innovativespeech.com

6

Spotlight Session- Hearing Loss

4/26/22 1:00-2:30 PM ET

We'll take a closer look and some top tech tools and strategies to support hearing.

Learn from a group of experts!

Space is limited. \$49.95

<https://innovativespeech.com/spotlight-sessions>



IST Tech Savvy Solutions Facebook Group



Free Webinar Series TheyMayNotKnow.com



Dedicated to the memory of my wonderful brother Robert (Bob) Lipman



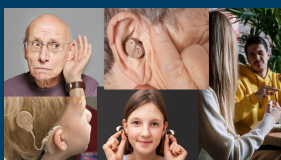
Framework for Leveraging Benefits of Tech



- Learn about what's possible ★
- Match user's needs to helpful features
- Set up the environment for success
- Try out tech tools and **adapt** as needed



Hearing Loss

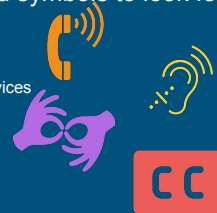


This sign indicated there are devices or services available for the deaf or hearing impaired.



More signs and symbols to look for:

- Volume control phone
- Assistive listening devices
- Sign language interpretation
- Closed captioning



Causes of Hearing Loss

People of all ages experience hearing loss

- Aging
- Noise exposure
- Head Trauma
- Virus or disease
- Genetics
- Ototoxicity



Conversations



Medical advice



Entertainment



Warnings

Impact of hearing loss have on everyday life



What aspects of hearing loss are most concerning?



- Performing tasks at work
- Talking with friends and family
- Learning in school
- Participating in community events
- Understanding medical advice
- Pursuing leisure activities



Strategies for success



- Preserve remaining hearing
- Seek professional evaluation- there could be other issues that need medical treatment
- Connect with others in similar situations
- Learn more about what may help- this is a great first step



What features / products may help?



Let's explore features, products, strategies and online groups that you may not realize exist!



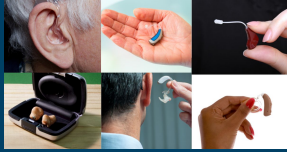
Optimize acoustic signal



- Increase volume & customize
- Conversational partner speaks slowly and clearly
- Hearing aids
- Cochlear implants



Let's talk about hearing aids



Hearing aids and new features

- Amplify certain frequencies
- Bluetooth & AT paired to it
- Remote programming of hearing aids



Roger personal microphone

Streams directly into hearing aids above level of background noise



Help hearing the TV or Online Meetings (Zoom)

TV streamers- streams sound into the hearing aid-specific to each hearing aid



Phonak TV Connector

TV Ears- Streams sound from TV to a headset
www.tvears.com



Help hearing and understanding the TV

Sound bars-

<https://www.nytimes.com/wirecutter/blog/soundbar-can-help-hear-dialogue/>



www.orbaudio.com

Sub app- translates captions- Watch captions on your iOS device

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/subtitles-viewer/id877811411>



Pocket Talkers

Simple microphone with a headset to amplify

Can purchase on Amazon



Over the Counter Hearing Aids

- Bill proposed by the FDA in October 2021 to allow direct to consumer hearing aid sales
- Will hopefully make hearing aids more affordable and accessible



OTC hearing aid Proposal not yet finalized

FDA Issues Landmark Proposal to Improve Access to Hearing Aid Technology for Millions of Americans

Proposed Rule Would Establish New Category of Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids

- People who are NOT candidates for OTC technology
- Experiencing any ear pathology, ie. drainage or pus from the ears
 - Previous surgery on the ears
 - Experiencing vertigo
 - Sudden hearing loss
 - Asymmetric hearing loss (one ear more severe than the other)
 - Greater than moderate hearing loss



Phones

Flashing lights and vibration- accessibility features for phone calls and texts

- Free state programs/ services for amplified or captioned telephone (captel)
- Maryland Relay- <https://doit.maryland.gov/mdrelay/Pages/about.aspx>
- <https://www.hearingloss.org/hearing-help/financial-assistance/state-telephone-programs/>



Emergency visual and tactile alerts

Diglo - <https://www.diglo.com/>

Baby monitors

Fire/carbon monoxide/ severe weather

Doorbells



Induction/ hearing Loop/ T-Loop

- Need Telecoils in hearing aids or cochlear implant
- Streams audio signal to hearing aid or loop listener
- Used in places of worship, entertainment venues, reception areas and more
- We will learn much more about this in the Spotlight Session with an invited guest who co-authored the book that is about to be released- Living with Hearing Loss



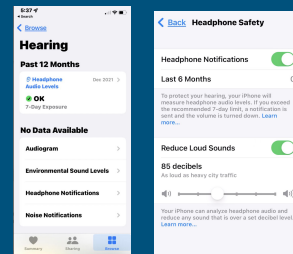
iPhone

Health App- Hearing

Customize AirPods

Get notified of unsafe hearing levels

Live Listen



Android Phones



<https://support.google.com/accessibility/android/answer/6006564?hl=en>

- **Connect hearing aids to your device**
- **Sound amplifier**- filter, augment and amplify sounds with headphones
- **Live caption**- translate spoken audio from videos or audio playing on your phone- data and wifi not required- look for square icon under the volume slider and tap it to turn on or off.



Apple Watch

Maps- vibrates just before each turn

Individualize vibrations and calls for callers



Optimize surroundings

- **See mouth movement**
- **See written words as listen**
- **Restaurants- well lit, sit with back to restaurant facing partner against wall**



Masks with clear windows

There are now many more choices

One option is The Communicator Surgical Facemasks - <https://safenclear.com/product/the-communicator-surgical-mask-with-a-clear-window/>

Nike- "If you prefer to be assisted by an employee who is wearing a clear face mask, or if you need any other accommodation, please ask an employee for assistance."



Video calls

There are many ways to connect from a distance and see a person speaking



Video calls

Facetime
Zoom
Whatsapp
Messenger
Skype
Doxy.me

Microsoft Teams
Google Meet
... many more



Grandpad and Echo Show



Grandpad.net



Amazon Echo Show



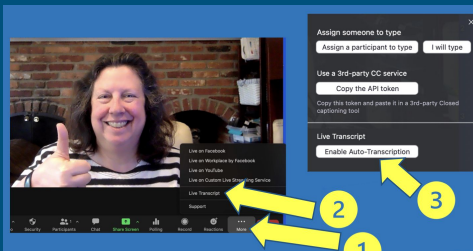
Captions and live transcription

Closed Captions- Viewers can turn on or off.

Open Captions- Always in view

Automated live transcription- immediate but may be less accurate

Real-time captioning (person typing)- key words can be used. Requires a person to do it.



Real time captioning and transcription

Virtual Meetings

Browsers

Presentation Tools

Mobile devices

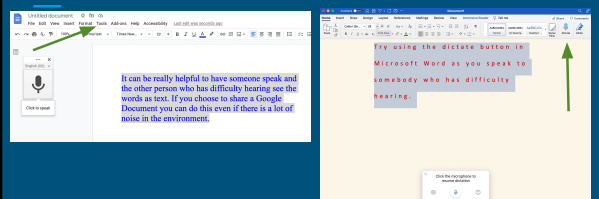


Speech to text

All up to date computers, phones, and tablets- free speech to text



Speech to text- Google Docs and Microsoft Word



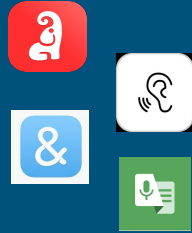
Apps

Live Transcribe- Live transcription in 50+ languages ios

Hearing Helper- Live Captions ios

Ava- Helpful in groups. Everyone in conversation logs into the app. ios Android, web, Mac and Windows

Live Transcribe & Notification- Android



More options for transcription/ captions

Otter.ai

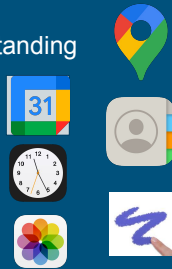
Meet Transcript

Rev.com



Use visuals to support understanding

- Maps
- Calendar
- Contacts
- Clock
- Photos
- Key Words
- Whiteboards (Doodle Buddy app)



Devices for distance communication

<https://www.grandpad.net/>

Amazon Echo Show



Preserve residual hearing

Need to raise your voice to be heard?

Protect your hearing!

- Leaf blower
- Lawn Mower
- Concerts
- **Foam earplugs**
- **Earmuffs**
- **Electronic noise cancelling devices for hunting**



Musician's plugs- for concerts

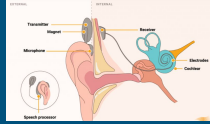
Custom made for your ears by an audiologist, and you can pick the level of attenuation (15 db, 25 db) based on your needs. They usually run around \$220 and can bring the sound down to a safe level.



Cochlear Implants: Who is a candidate?



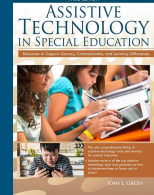
- Patients with moderate to profound hearing loss who do NOT perceive adequate benefit from hearing aids
- Patients with very poor speech understanding
- Babies and children with profound hearing loss who are not developing typical speech and language with hearing aids



Assistive Technology Book, 3rd edition by Joan Green

Resources to support literacy, communication and learning differences

Available on Amazon and many other online bookstores



- New Online Courses, Spotlight Sessions & Webinars
- 1:1 Online Tech Coaching
- Customized Online Presentations

Joan@innovativespeech.com
www.innovativespeech.com



Save the date for these webinars:

- 5/4/22 **Accessibility: Calling all clinicians, educators and advocates!** Inclusive tech features we need to know
- 6/1/22 **ElderTech: Top tech tools for Older adults**



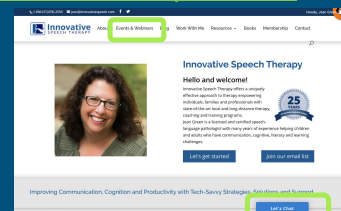
Save the date for these webinars:

- 7/13/22 **Microsoft Apps and Accessibility-** Strategies and Tools to Support Communication, Learning and Productivity
- 8/10/22. **Back to School-** Level up your Tech-Savvy Skills for Success!



Let's Chat! www.innovativespeech.com

I offer free 15 minute phone consultations to help you figure out your next steps...



Let's stay in touch!

Joan Lipman Green

www.innovativespeech.com

Joan@innovativespeech.com

Facebook- [Innovative.Speech.Therapy](https://www.facebook.com/Innovative.Speech.Therapy)

FB Group- [IST Tech Savvy Solutions](#)

LinkedIn- [Joan Lipman Green](#)

Twitter- [@jgreenslp](#)

Instagram- [joanlipmangreen](#)

