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## **WHY ARE TWO AIDS BETTER THAN ONE?**

Some people have difficulty deciding whether to purchase two hearing aids or just one. To help you decide, here are some important advantages of binaural (two ear) hearing aid use:

- \* Hearing the same from both ears gives you a **more natural** “stereo” sound and allows you to **feel more “balanced”**.
- \* **Localization** is possible– you can tell what direction sound is coming from. This can be a very important **safety concern**.
- \* Listening with two ears is **easier than listening with one**. This reduces fatigue and increases listening comfort.
- \* Balanced hearing **improves the clarity of speech** and allows us to **understand speech better**, both in normal conditions as well as in the presence of background noise.
- \* **Less power is needed** when using two aids. This reduces interference of background noise, decreases the chance of over amplification of loud sounds and reduces the chance of feedback (squealing) from the hearing aids.
- \* **Loud sounds are less bothersome** since sudden loud sounds lose their “jarring” effect when divided between two ears.
- \* **Both ears stay active**, reducing the chance that the **unaided ear will lose its ability to hear or understand completely**. “If you don’t use it, you lose it.” Aiding only one ear may make future use of a hearing aid in the unaided ear more difficult. The hearing nerve actually deteriorates if it is not stimulated.