Welcome

ADA 2014 Convention

Red Rock Resort | Las Vegas, Nevada

November 6-9, 2014
Product Dependence

IS IT CO-OPTING OUR EFFORTS TO BECOME LIMITED LICENSED PROVIDERS?
Presenters

• Barry A. Freeman, Ph.D., Moderator
• Amyn Amlani, Ph.D., U. No. Texas
• Ian Windmill, Ph.D., U. Mississippi School of Medicine
• Brian Taylor, Au.D., Unitron Hearing
What if...

Shel Silverstein

Last night, while I lay thinking here,
Some Whatifs crawled inside my ear
And pranced and partied all night long
What if I'm dumb in school?
What if they've closed the swimming pool?
What if I get beat up?
What if there's poison in my cup?...
Everything seems swell, and then
The nighttime Whatifs strike again!
Consumers

Demographic Landscape
Increased recognition for Audiology

State License Laws

U.S. Department of Education

Fed Employee Health Benefit Plans, Dept. of Veteran’s Affairs, Private 3rd Party Insurance
The Good News

High demand for services

Population (Millions)

*Children: 32m
9%

*Adults: 328 m.
91%

>40dBHL

>30dBHL

ADA 2014 CONVENTION
RAISING THE STAKES:
GOING ALL IN FOR AUDILOGY
United States birth rate (births per 1000 population). The United States Census Bureau defines the demographic birth boom as between 1946 and 1964 (red).
Unmet Need

- Mild/Mod HL 75% of Population
- Mod/Severe HL 20% of Population
- Severe/Profound 5% of Population

% Using H.aids/% Not Using

- 70%/30%
- 50%/50%
- 10%/90%
Onset of Hearing Loss  NIDCD, 2012

Age at Which Hearing Loss Begins

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>Males</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Birth</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-2</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-19</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-39</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-59</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70+</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[Bar Chart]
Hearing Instrument Facts  (Marketrak, 2012; Bernstein, 2013)

- 3m hearing aids sold annually in U.S.; 11m globally.

- ~14m hearing aids in use in U.S; 40m globally.

- Average age at purchase: 69 years

- 70% products sold to current users
Providers

Demographic Landscape
Hearing Care Providers*

- Audiologists: 16,095
- Dispensers: 8,203

*Freeman, 2010
Projected Need versus Projected Growth of Audiologists

Unmet Need?
Challenges

- Workforce to meet demand
- Improvements in practice efficiencies
Audiologist: **Best Career**

- **Forbes magazine:**
  
  *The “Offices of Audiologists” are #15 of the 20 Most Profitable Small Businesses in America.*

- **US News & World Report/U.S. Department of Labor:**
  
  - 4 consecutive years #1
  - “One-on-one helping career”
  - “Under-the-radar career”
  - “Great independent practice opportunities”
Manufacturers

Demographic Landscape
## Understanding the Manufacturers

### Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parent Company</th>
<th>Manufacturers</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Headquarters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starkey</td>
<td>Starkey, Nu-Ear, Microtech</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GN ReSound</td>
<td>GN Resound, Beltone, Interton, Danavox, Philips</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Demant/Holding</td>
<td>Oticon, Bernafon, Sonic Innovations, Phonic Ear, Sennheiser</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widex A/S</td>
<td>Widex</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siemens</td>
<td>Rexton, Miracle Ear</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonova</td>
<td>Phonak, Unitron, Sona, Argosy, Lori, Advanced Bionics, Hearing Planet</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VA accounted for 20.6% of all units a growth unit rate of 7.3% over 2012; private-sector dispensing unit growth increased by 4.2% in 2013. Overall growth: 4.8%. 2,990,104 net units dispensed in 2013.
HA Units: 2009-present

Figure 1: US unit growth
The Great Unknown: PSAPs

Approximately 1.5 million people with hearing impairment use either direct-mail or personal sound amplifier products (PSAPs) to compensate for their hearing loss;

Approximately 3 out of 4 PSAP users have hearing loss profiles equivalent to those of custom hearing aid users.
Other Unknowns:

- Hearables
- Wearables
- Compatible Accessories
Hearables

• “Hearables are our next generation of devices that we put in or on our ears...
• A new generation of technology is going to revolutionize the way we listen to music, as well as for vital signs and fitness sensors.”
• “’Hearable’ technology is a force to be reckoned to be reckoned with...”

Hunn, 2014
• Bluetooth companies are working with Hearing Aid industry...to bring music capability to hearing aid-sized devices.
• The comfort of wearing such lightweight headsets will also de-stigmatize hearing aids and grow the market for hearing aids. The hearing aid industry will start incorporating these into products, with around 60% of hearing aids being Bluetooth based by 2020. The added functionality of these will also stimulate the market.
• By 2018 the hearable market will be worth over $5 billion,
Jabra Sport Pulse (bluetooth headset with in-ear heart rate monitor).
Without explicit commentary from management, ... this technology could soon be used by the hearing aid division. If so, GN will be the first mover in hearing aids with integrated body sensors.

JABRA SPORT PULSE™ WIRELESS EARBUDDS:

The next generation all-in-one training solution with integrated heart rate monitor.

Take your training to the next level and get the ultimate wireless workout with Jabra Sport Pulse Wireless earbuds and the Jabra Sport Life™ app. This all-in-one training solution combines an in-ear precision heart rate monitor, immersive Dolby® sound, and real-time voice coaching that will inspire you to achieve the impossible. Cut the clutter and experience true freedom of movement without compromise.
Audiologist’s Role?

• Does our current business model lend itself to meeting future patient services?
• Does separating professional services from product prices make more sense in the evolving world of technology?
Technology Advancement

- Open platform
- Rechargeable Batteries and Conversion Modules
- Peripherals/Compatible Accessories
Is it time...

• To eliminate “Hearing Aid” from our vocabulary
Hearing Aids?

• These are not our grandparents hearing aids!
• Let’s rebrand...Audiology Hearables?!
• Let’s remove “Hearing Aid” from our language!
Talk About Professional Differentiation

Hearing Aids
- Analog or DSP
- Disposable battery
- Bundled price
- Sophisticated amplifier
- Worn by pre-baby-boom generation

Audiology Hearables
- DSP Wireless
- Rechargeable
- Itemizing to sell peripherals and compatible accessories
- Sought by the current and new generations of hearing impaired and even non-impaired!
Audiology’s Role?

• Will our patient’s be able to hear the “hearable”?

• Who should fit and adjust?
  – The Apple Store “certified accessibility” staff?

• Who should counsel to enable our patients to live in a “hearable” world.

• It’s more than just a product sale!
What’s in your Sandbox?
Where is the competition NOT playing?

• Tinnitus management?
• Rehabilitation and Counseling?
• Vestibular assessment and management?
• Rechargeability of hearing instruments?
• Compatible accessories?
• Custom products and services?
• What do you offer that differentiates your practice?
Chaos Breeds Opportunity!

There should be a lot of opportunities for audiologists!!
Core Focus:
A shift from LLP to Retail Sales

Historic

Diagnose
Manage
Treat

Current

Product Sales
“If all you do is sell a product, differentiation is impossible because your industry can be cannibalized by corporate America.”

Woods (2013)
Cannibalization

A shift from our goal of becoming LLPs who Diagnose, Manage, and Treat their patients to a goal of selling more products today than yesterday.
Historic: Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Evals/Adults and Pediatrics
- Products
- ABR/VNG
- Tinnitus, Industrial, Educational
- CAPD
Current: Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Opportunities
- Close Rates
- Return for Credit
- Avg. Selling Price & Margins
- Technology Levels
Learning From Other Professions
Lessons from other professions

- Optometry
  - Patient Visits & Patient Centered Care
  - Hygiene, Prevention, & routine follow up care

- Dentistry
  - Practice Efficiencies
  - Practice Differentiation Based on Quality of Care, Credentials, & Trust

- Veterinary
Lessons from other professions

• Patients

Some will stay with practice
Some will go to Big-box Retail or On-line
Some services will be paid out of pocket with discretionary and disposable income
Some services covered by 3rd Party
What to do?

• Differentiate!
  – Provide a suite of services that distinguishes practice from the market.
  – Diagnose, manage, and treat our patients.
  – Focus marketing on Audiologic care rather than price/product.
What to do?

- Audiology

  Patient Visits & Patient Centered Care

  Practice Efficiencies; Routine Hearing and Balance Exams

  Hygiene, Prevention, & routine follow up care

  Practice Differentiation Based on Quality of Care, Credentials, & Trust
The Language of Trust (P. Marincovich, 2014)

- An opportunity to differentiate our profession and practices

Treatment  Prevention
Management  Diagnosis
So, if the WhatIf’s Strike:

• Focus and promote your passion
• Follow best clinical standards and business practices
• Take care of your business—make your bed every morning—organize and plan
This Should be Our Wake Up Call for Professional Differentiation

Focus on the full scope of audiologic practice and patient centered care
Windmill

Taylor

Freeman

Amiani

Windmill