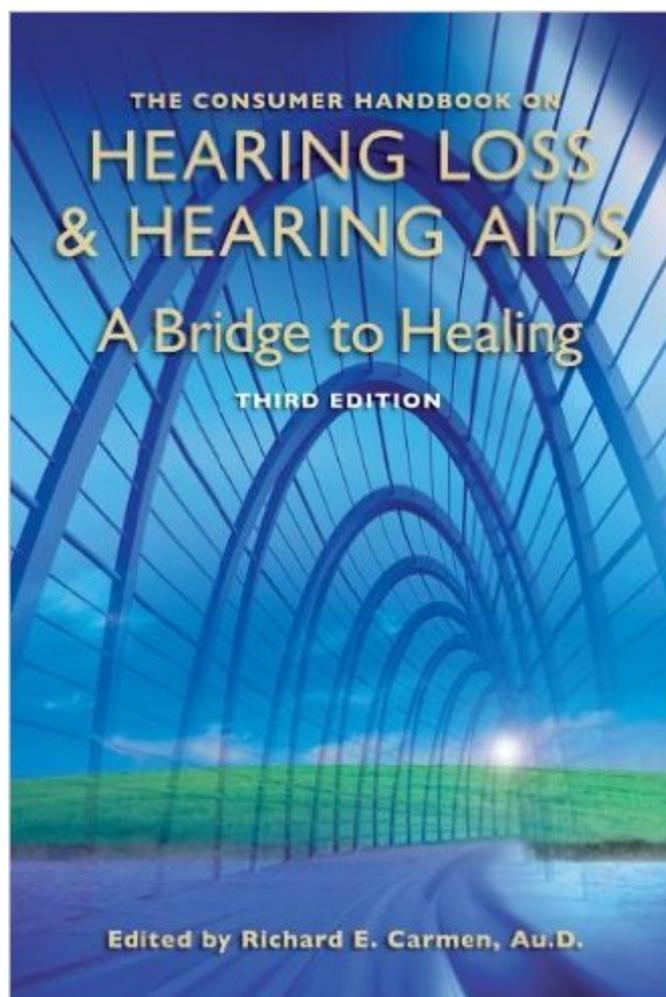


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# The Consumer Handbook On Hearing Loss And Hearing AIDS: A Bridge To Healing



## Synopsis

Book by

## Book Information

Paperback: 264 pages

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## Customer Reviews

I've been a subscriber to all editions of this book and as a rehabilitative audiologist, therapist and professor, there isn't another book on the market that has helped my patients more than this one. The latest Third Edition (2009) embraces 2012 state-of-the-art hearing aid technology expertly prepared for the lay consumer. I hold monthly aural rehabilitation classes of 20-40 adult veterans with mild to severe hearing loss and all of them have been given a complimentary copy of one of the editions of this book. Their gratitude ranges from "invaluable" to "indispensable" because of the breadth of information/knowledge available in Dr. Carmen's book. Chapters are written by different authors, recognized experts in their field, covering different aspects of the many problems caused by hearing loss. Equally and often more grateful are the spouses and children! I wholeheartedly recommend this book to anyone even considering a hearing aid--it's the homework that should precede such an investment. It is also a great way for those in denial to overcome resistance and increase hearing aid satisfaction once the decision to obtain amplification has been made. Based on my conversations with some of the contributors, the remarkable sales record speaks for itself. Dion Svihovec, Ph.D., Audiologist / Veterans Administration Medical Centers, Los Angeles County; West Los Angeles Clinic; Downtown Los Angeles Clinic; San Fernando Valley / Sepulveda Clinic

As a practicing audiologist, I've read this book and recommended many of my patients read it. I believe it (the most recent edition) provides the most comprehensive, easy to read discussion of

important topics for those who've acquired hearing loss as an adult as well as for their family and friends. It reviews the effects adult onset hearing loss can have on our relationships, jobs, and sense of self as well as how to begin the process of treatment. While hearing aid technology specifics become outdated quickly, the general discussion on the topic is useful and helps generate questions you should ask your audiologist (not a hearing aid dispenser). See my blog for further advice if you like: just google "audiblogogist"

I purchased this book because I wanted to understand in detail the technology of digital hearing aids, their advantages and their limitations. However, only three chapters out of the twelve describe the technology of hearing aids and wireless assistive listening devices. Their coverage of the technical details of hearing aids is not very deep, and a discussion of the technologies the audiologist has to use to program digital hearing aids to compensate for a patient's individual hearing loss is also missing. The main body of the book deals with all the problems of hearing loss, and its deleterious consequences if left untreated. This portion of the book is very well done and helpful to consumers. Two key topics are completely missing :1. Reluctance of people with hearing loss to purchase hearing aids because of their HIGH PRICES, combined with fear of their technological obsolescence after a few years2. Emergence of LOWER COST PSAPs (personal sound amplification products) that are becoming increasingly sophisticated and are being distributed/fitted by chain retailers. In my judgement these two points are major reasons why people with hearing loss are reluctant to spend several thousand dollars per pair on digital hearing aids from major manufacturers. They are wondering why equally sophisticated electronic devices (laptop computers, iPad, iPhone) cost a fraction of a modern digital hearing aid, and are therefore considering lower cost alternatives, or do nothing.

This book was full of useful information. It helped me understand the problem and the many other options available to me. I would recommend this book.

I had seen and examined this book at a retailer of hearing aids, Costco, so I ordered my own copy. The book I got, in a timely fashion, fair price, good condition, was outdated, 5 years old. Hearing aid technology is changing fast, and selecting aids on the basis of 5-year-old consumer's review is of little help. (could you buy a new flat screen HD TV based on a review of TV's five years ago?) Had I known its publication date, I would have looked further.

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