

APRIL 21, 2000

MS JANE HENNEY:

I AM SADDENED THAT THE FDA
IS EVEN CONSIDERING THE IDEA TO
FORCE A PERSON TO SEE AN
AUDIOLOGIST BEFORE BUYING A HEARING AID.

I RECENTLY WENT TO AN AUDIOLOGIST.
HE RECOMMENDED A \$5,000 SET. I AM
SURE THAT AT LEAST 30% OF THAT SUM
WOULD BE PROFIT TO HIM. FURTHERMORE,
I AM ALSO SURE THAT THE BASIC COST
OF THE 2 BTE AIDS WITH A REMOTE
WOULD NOT EXCEED \$2,500.

I HAVE BOUGHT 2 AIDS THRU THE
MAIL AND THEY WORK TO MY SATISFACTION.
AND I AM CONSIDERING BUYING ANOTHER
ONE FOR ABOUT \$1,000 WHICH IS ON A
QUALITY SCALE OF THE \$5,000 SET ABOVE.

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I AM 72 YRS OLD AND HAVE
SEEN, OVER THE YEARS, THE EFFORTS
OF THE INDUSTRY TO USE SCARE
TACTICS AND ANTI-CONSUMER METHODS TO
CONTROL AND KEEP PRICES HIGH.

IT APPEARS TO ME, THEY HAVE
SUCCEEDED. I HOPE YOU DON'T HELP
THEM FURTHER.

ON THE CONTRARY, MAYBE, YOUR FDA
SHOULD CONSIDER MEANS TO FURTHER DE-
CONTROL, AND MAKE HEARING TESTS, AND
HEARING AIDS, CHEAPER AND MORE AVAILABLE
TO ALL, REGARDLESS OF INCOME.

THANKS

Robert D. Ed

Attention FDA

It came to my attention that the FDA is being asked to take away my right to sign a medical waiver before purchasing a hearing aid. Instead I would be forced to have a medical exam or hearing test. Here's my views and/or experiences on several related questions?

1. Should I be forced to have a medical exam and/or hearing test before purchasing a hearing aid? If so, should the FDA pay for the exam?

NO

2. Some people are physically unable to drive to a doctor or hearing specialist, or have had bad experiences they don't want to repeat. For instance ...

NO

3. Should the FDA take away my Constitutional Right, affirmed by the Supreme Court, to decide for myself my medical exams and treatment?

NO

4. Should I be allowed to purchase hearing aids by mail as I choose?

YES

Signed by:

Robert O. Eden

Date:

4/21/2000

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