

Attention FDA

1970 '00 MAR 21 A9:40

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?

A hearing test should be done as an option by the person getting the device. The furnisher of the device guarantees satisfaction, will refund if not satisfied.

The FDA should pay if they insist on a test.

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 ...

Having to hire someone, or pay bus fare, to get a test, only adds to an already unnecessary expense. It should be my option. Please do not take away my right to choose. I can't afford it.

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

Certainly not! I know if I can hear or not.

I know by my own knowledge that the Licensed, FDA approved Examiners charge us 2 or 3 or more times what we pay for same or better aids by mail.

4. Should I be allowed to purchase hearing aids by mail as I choose? When I got my first hearing aid I first went to an audiologist, got an audiograph, then an aid on trial. It was "on sale" for \$499.00 (Reg 799.00). I returned it, then ordered one by mail for \$199.00. Satisfaction guaranteed 16 years later I'm still using it.

Signed by: Rufus E. Jones

Date: 2-28-2000.

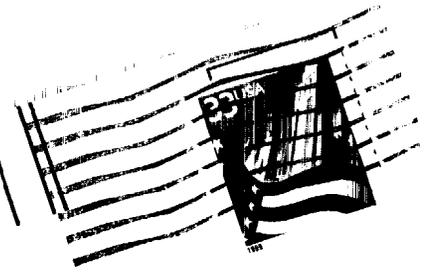
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