

Attention FDA

0473 '00 MAY -4 11:20

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?

I had a medical exam several years ago that indicated that I needed hearing aids. I do not need to go through that every time I need a new aid.

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 ...

People who do not have transportation or helpful neighbors should be able to do whatever they can to improve their hearing.

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

People have a right if they wish to purchase hearing aids and batteries as they choose without going to the expense of seeing a doctor or audiologist.

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

Yes, these products would not permanently cause damage to the auditory system so one should be able to try them.

Signed by:

Janet E. Gooch

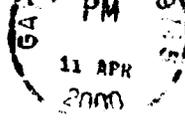
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