

# Attention FDA

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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? - *yes - because I don't need anyone to tell me what I already know - I'm hard of hearing*  
*My yearly income is \$10,000.00*

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,...

*In the first place - I'm too poor, my insurance won't cover ear tests and secondly (as above) I already know I can't hear good. I had gone the route - spec. & custom made in the ear aid - I was told it would be better (for them or they cost more) than behind the ear. I have diabetes & I swell & shrink - it would fall out on me - I love the behind ear ones I got from EXCEL. I have the custom made mold in one ear that I made fall off.*

3. Should the FDA take away my Constitutional Right, affirmed by the Supreme Court, to decide for myself my medical exams and treatment? *No, and if they do that to be expected - poor people are at the bottom of the list. NO ONE in high places knows how to live on \$10,000.00 per year.*

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

*If I were unable to purchase my hearing aids from EXCEL then I would be forced to live in a soundless world. My first hearing aid I went the route - hearing specialist & custom made aid - the whole did didn't work well - cost almost as much to clean + repair as new one - I found EXCEL and I can get 2 aids for less than paid for the fancy one that didn't work out.*

Signed by: Elsie Rudick

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