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She trained in Clinical Audiology at Melbourne University (Australia) She has extensive clinical experience in audiology, including aural rehabilitation, hearing aids and diagnostic audiology in private and government clinics. In 2004 Bernadette moved into research and development. In 2015 she joined the team dedicated to adults with severe to profound hearing loss at Phonak Communications in Murten as Audiology Manager.

Latest developments in hearing aids for people with severe to profound hearing loss

Wireless technologies such as telecoil and remote microphones; significantly improve speech understanding in noise and over distance, where adults with severe to profound hearing loss face significant challenges. Special challenges arise for people with large degrees of hearing loss because of changes in the auditory abilities compared to those with lesser degrees of hearing loss. The result is a huge variability in the ability to understand speech even when quiet and when there is no difference in the amount of hearing measured by the audiogram. This paper will outline some new developments in hearing aids which can help even more. One example is hearing aids which switch to directional microphones setting at the same time as using a remote microphone. A new study shows that this results in improvements in understanding speech when listening to a speaker nearby (hearing aid microphone) and when the speaker is in the distance (remote microphone). The performance of small and versatile remote microphones can be enhanced when the hearing aid and remote microphone function together seamlessly.