



# Issue Response

## OREGON HEALTH LICENSING AGENCY

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### Hearing Aid Dispensing

**April 24, 2013**

On August 9, 2011, the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA) received questions from Tiffany Parret, of Avada Hearing Aid Centers in Portland, OR, regarding what activities unlicensed staff may or may not perform in an office that is selling hearing aids.

Upon consideration and request by the Advisory Council on Hearing Aids, OHLA consulted with its general counsel regarding the questions received.

#### **Issue**

It was asked whether unlicensed individuals in an office that is selling hearing aids may do the following:

- Clean hearing devices
- Retube a BTE mold
- Change domes, wax filters or receivers
- Look in a client's ear with an otoscope
- Perform HA verification such as soundfield
- Perform any type of pure tone ear induction screening

#### **Answer**

ORS 694.015(1) defines "dealing in hearing aids" as "the sale, lease or rental or attempted sale, lease or rental of hearing aids in conjunction with the evaluation or measurement of the powers or range of human hearing and the recommendation, selection or adaptation of hearing aids."

No. It appears a license is not required to:

- Clean hearing devices; or
- Retube a BTE mold

Yes. It appears a license is required to:

- Change domes, wax filters or receivers;
- Look in a client's ear with an otoscope;
- Perform hearing aid verification such as soundfield testing; or
- Perform any type of pure-tone ear induction screening.

**Important Note:** OHLA does not provide personal legal advice to licensees or members of the public. The responses below are specific to only those questions asked. Even slight changes in the scope

or content of the question may change the applicability of these responses in a different situation. Please consult your own attorney for legal advice regarding Oregon laws and administrative rules.