Using hearing aids with mobile devices

When some wireless mobile devices are used near some hearing devices (hearing aids and cochlear implants), users may detect a buzzing, humming, or whining noise. Some hearing devices are more immune than others to this interference noise, and mobile devices also vary in the amount of interference they generate. In the event of interference you may want to consult your hearing aid supplier to discuss solutions.

The wireless telephone industry has developed ratings for some of their mobile devices, to assist hearing device users in finding mobile devices that may be compatible with their hearing devices. Not all mobile devices have been rated. Mobile devices that are rated have the rating on their box or label located on the box.

The ratings are not guarantees. Results will vary depending on the user's hearing device and hearing loss. If your hearing device happens to be vulnerable to interference, you may not be able to use a rated mobile device successfully. Trying out the mobile device with your hearing device is the best way to evaluate it for your personal needs.

M-Ratings: Mobile devices rated M3 or M4 are likely to generate less interference to hearing devices than mobile devices that are not labeled. M4 is the better/higher of the two ratings.

T-Ratings: Mobile devices rated T3 or T4 are likely to be more usable with a hearing device's telecoil ("T-Coil Switch" or "Telephone Switch") than unrated mobile devices. T4 is the better/higher of the two ratings. (Note that the hearing aid telecoil must be activated in order for it to function, and that not all hearing devices have telecoils in them.)

Hearing devices may also be measured for immunity to this type of interference. Your hearing device manufacturer or hearing health professional may help you find results for your hearing device. The more immune your hearing aid is, the less likely you are to experience interference noise from mobile devices.

The HAC rating and measurement procedure are described in the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C63.19 standard.

Hearing aid compatibility

Each of the mobile devices listed in the below table have been tested and rated for use with hearing aids for some of the wireless technologies that it uses. However, there may be some newer wireless technologies used in the mobile device that have not been tested yet for use with hearing aids. It is important to try the different features of the mobile

device thoroughly and in different locations, using your hearing aid or cochlear implant, to determine if you hear any interfering noise. Consult your service provider or the manufacturer of the mobile device for information on hearing aid compatibility. If you have questions about return or exchange policies, consult your service provider or mobile retailer.

HAC mobile devices

Model	HAC Rating
FZ-X1AAxxxxx	M3, T3
FZ-X1ACxxxxx	M3, T3
FZ-E1BCxxxxx	M4, T4
FZ-E1BBxxxxx	M3, T4
FZ-X1ABxxxxx	M3, T3
FZ-X1CAxxxxx	M3, T3
FZ-X1CBxxxxx	M3, T3
FZ-X1CCxxxxx	M3, T3
FZ-N1ABxxxxx	M3, T3
FZ-N1ACxxxxx	M4, T4
FZ-X1CHxxxxx	M3, T3
FZ-F1BCxxxxx	M3, T3
FZ-E1DCxxxxx	M4, T4
FZ-E1DBxxxxx	M3, T4
FZ-N1CBxxxxx	M3, T3
FZ-N1CCxxxxx	M4, T4
FZ-N1JCxxxxx	M4, T4
FZ-N1EBxxxxx	M4, T4
FZ-N1ECxxxxx	M4, T4
FZ-T1BBxxxxx	M4, T4
FZ-T1BCxxxxx	M4, T4

(x：alphanumeric)