

Clinician survey



Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us on trainable hearing aids in adult hearing aid fitting.

This multiple choice survey will take up to 20 minutes to complete.

Your responses will be recorded anonymously, so please give us your honest opinion.

This survey has received ethical approval from the Australian Hearing Human Research Ethics Committee and the Behavioural & Social Sciences Ethical Review Committee of the University of Queensland.

[Instructions, participant information]

[Qualifying items]

Item	Response options
Firstly, please provide us with some information about yourself, so we can check if this survey is suitable for you.	
Please indicate if you practice as:	<input type="checkbox"/> an audiologist <input type="checkbox"/> an audiometrist <input type="checkbox"/> neither of the above => <i>excluded</i>
Which category describes your current workload? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Academic research <input type="checkbox"/> Academic teaching <input type="checkbox"/> CI rehabilitation <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical support <input type="checkbox"/> Community education <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnostic <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing aids and rehabilitation – adult <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing aids and rehabilitation – paediatric <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Management <input type="checkbox"/> Product training and sales – Hearing aids <input type="checkbox"/> Policy making => <i>exclude those not selecting one of the bolded options</i>
Select whether the following statement applies: In the last month, I have discussed rehabilitation options, including hearing aid selection with adult clients, clinicians or students in training:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No => <i>excluded</i>
Exclusion message: Sorry, you do not qualify to take this survey, as we are looking for clinicians who fit hearing aids to adult clients. Thank you for your time.	

[Contingency items]

A trainable, learning or self-learning feature is a hearing aid feature that can be activated to let the client fine-tune their own hearing aid settings after the fitting. A trainable feature learns and anticipates user preferences by combining user-selected hearing aid settings with acoustic information from the environment the settings were selected in. Training requires that the aid settings can be adjusted by the user. It can involve overall volume learning, noise management, or compression and volume learning in different sound classes (e.g. speech in noise, music).

	Item	Response options	Go to
1	Can you order hearing aids that have a trainable feature?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<i>[C. PasNonPros] p.14</i>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<i>Item 1a</i>
		<input type="checkbox"/> I don't know	<i>[C. PasNonPros] p.14</i>
1a	Thinking about the last 6 months, approximately what percentage of hearing aids you fitted had a trainable feature available?	0%	<i>[C. PasNonPros] p.14</i>
		Less than 10% 10 to 25% 25 to 50 % 50 to 75% 75 to 90% >90% ... of the hearing aids I fitted had a trainable feature	<i>Item 2</i>
2	Have you activated the trainable feature when it was available?	<input type="checkbox"/> No, I make sure training is not activated	<i>[B. ActNonPros] p. 10</i>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I sometimes activate the trainable feature (even if only very rarely)	<i>[A. ActPros] p. 4</i>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I always activate the trainable feature	<i>[A. ActPros] p. 4</i>
		<input type="checkbox"/> I don't know if the trainable feature was activated or not.	<i>[C. PasNonPros] p.14</i>

[Evaluation of experience or expectations]

[A. ActPros]

	Item	Response options															
3	Where did you first find out about a trainable feature in hearing aids?	<input type="checkbox"/> At a product launch OR from a sales rep <input type="checkbox"/> At a conference <input type="checkbox"/> As part of a continuous education program <input type="checkbox"/> During my audiology training <input type="checkbox"/> Other:															
4	Condition: if selecting "Yes, I sometimes activate the trainable feature" on <i>item 2</i> . How often would you estimate that you have activated a trainable feature?	<input type="checkbox"/> When it was available, I have activated the trainable feature for about 25% of clients. <input type="checkbox"/> When it was available, I have activated the trainable feature for about 50% of clients. <input type="checkbox"/> When it was available, I have activated the trainable feature for about 75% of clients.															
5	Condition: if selecting "Yes, I sometimes activate the trainable feature" on <i>item 2</i> . Based on your experience , which client information do you consider before activating the trainable feature? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Audiometric information <input type="checkbox"/> Cognitive status <input type="checkbox"/> Distance to the clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Diverse listening needs <input type="checkbox"/> Finger dexterity <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing aid experience <input type="checkbox"/> Interest in feature <input type="checkbox"/> Personality: very particular about settings <input type="checkbox"/> Use of assistive listening technology <input type="checkbox"/> Vision <input type="checkbox"/> Other:															
	Rate how important these items were in your decision to activate the trainable feature	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Slightly important</th> <th>Moderately important</th> <th>Very important</th> <th>Extremely important</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>...</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>...</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important				
	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important													
...																	
...																	
6	Did you activate a trainable feature based on:	<input type="checkbox"/> your own initiative <input type="checkbox"/> the client's initiative <input type="checkbox"/> both															

Item		Response options				
6b	What made you decide to activate the trainable feature when it was available? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> I believe it could benefit my clients <input type="checkbox"/> I wanted to find out how it affected outcomes for my clients <input type="checkbox"/> I was told to <input type="checkbox"/> I just did, I hadn't thought about why <input type="checkbox"/> other:				
6c	Condition: response to item 6b is "I believe it could benefit my clients": In what way do you believe the feature could benefit your clients? Please add your responses in the box(es) below.					
7	Condition: response to item 2 is "Yes, I sometimes activate the trainable feature" When you did not activate the trainable feature, what were the reasons? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> I didn't think the client would understand the concept (e.g. poor cognition) <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't think the client would be able to train successfully (e.g. obtaining poorer settings) <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't think the client had enough hearing aid experience to use a trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing aid controls were already deactivated for management reasons (e.g. dexterity, vision problems) or client preference (e.g. prefer aids to be 'automatic') <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't think clients were in need of fine-tuning when both the clients and I were happy with the hearing aid settings at the fitting <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I offered, but the client declined</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I have stopped using the trainable feature</i> <input type="checkbox"/> other:				
	Rate how important these items were in your decision not to activate the trainable feature (omits the items in italics)		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
		...				
		...				

	Item	Response options															
7a	Condition: if response to item 7 is "I offered, but the client declined" What were reasons clients gave for declining the trainable feature? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor cognition <input type="checkbox"/> Poor dexterity <input type="checkbox"/> No/limited hearing aid experience <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of motivation <input type="checkbox"/> Poor vision <input type="checkbox"/> Other:															
7b	Condition: if response to item 7 is "I have stopped using the trainable feature" Why did you stop using trainable features? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> I still needed to fine-tune settings <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't see much overall benefit to the client: trained settings were very similar to the original settings <input type="checkbox"/> Clients obtained poorer outcomes: clients obtained settings inappropriate for their hearing loss, e.g. too soft. <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't feel I knew enough about how the trainable feature was impacting settings. <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer manual fine-tuning relying on the client's descriptions <input type="checkbox"/> I was advised to do so by my manager/clinical educator <input type="checkbox"/> Other:															
	Rate how important the items were in your decision to stop using the trainable feature	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Slightly important</th> <th>Moderately important</th> <th>Very important</th> <th>Extremely important</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>...</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>...</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important				
	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important													
...																	
...																	
8	Did you evaluate if the trained settings were appropriate for the client's hearing loss and/or if the client was happy with the settings?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No															
8a	Condition: if response to item 8 is "Yes" How did you evaluate the outcome of hearing aid training? Select all the techniques you have used:	<input type="checkbox"/> I measured the insertion/coupler gain of the trained response and compared them to the initial responses <input type="checkbox"/> I downloaded the trained hearing aid settings and compared them to the initial settings <input type="checkbox"/> I obtained a subjective report from the client <input type="checkbox"/> I evaluated the outcome of the training as part of the hearing aid fitting (e.g. COSI, aided speech assessment, satisfaction questionnaire) <input type="checkbox"/> other:															

	Item	Response options															
8b	What was generally the outcome of the training?	<input type="checkbox"/> (Most of the time) the trained settings were kept <input type="checkbox"/> (Most of the time) the trained settings were kept, and they were similar to the original settings <input type="checkbox"/> (Most of the time) the trained settings were kept, but I did further fine-tuning <input type="checkbox"/> (Most of the time) the settings were reset to the initial prescription/manufacture's settings <input type="checkbox"/> Other:															
9	Have trainable features changed your fitting and follow-up procedure?	1. Not at all 2. Slightly 3. Moderately 4. Very 5. Extremely Comment:															
10	Based on your experience, which of the following statements about the potential advantage to you/your practice of activating a trainable feature do you agree with? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> More cost-effective: less additional follow-up appointments needed <input type="checkbox"/> Time-saving: more time available in the follow-up appointment(s) to discuss other rehabilitation aspects (e.g. communication tips, assistive listening devices) <input type="checkbox"/> Increased client retention: improved client outcomes/satisfaction due to personal fine-tuning <input type="checkbox"/> Simpler fine-tuning process: no/less need to rely on client report for fine-tuning <input type="checkbox"/> No advantage: I don't think there are any advantages to me/my practice using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> Other:															
	Rate how important these advantages are to you/your practice	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Slightly important</th><th>Moderately important</th><th>Very important</th><th>Extremely important</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>...</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>...</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important				
	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important													
...																	
...																	

	Item	Response options				
11	Based on your experience, which of the following statements about the potential advantage to clients of activating a trainable feature do you agree with? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Convenience: fewer visits to the clinic after fitting or adjustment <input type="checkbox"/> Psychological ownership: clients feel more involved with/ in control of their rehabilitation <input type="checkbox"/> Improved outcome: clients are more satisfied as they obtained highly personalised settings <input type="checkbox"/> On-going adjustments: clients can fine-tune their settings at any time in response to changes to their hearing, listening situation or preference <input type="checkbox"/> No advantage: I don't think there are any advantages to clients in using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> other:				
	Rate how important these advantages are to your clients		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
		...				
		...				
12	Based on your experience, which of the statements about the potential disadvantage to you/your practice of activating a trainable feature do you agree with? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Less cost effective: additional time needed to explain the training concept during device selection and/or fitting <input type="checkbox"/> Time consuming: after obtaining inappropriate hearing aid settings, they are reset and an additional trial period started <input type="checkbox"/> Creates a bad image: the clients think the hearing aid is doing all the fine-tuning because I can't <input type="checkbox"/> Reduces the need for hearing care in the long term: clients can adjust their own hearing aids when their hearing changes <input type="checkbox"/> No disadvantage: I don't think there were any disadvantages to me/ my practice using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> other:				
	Rate how important these disadvantages are to you/your practice		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
		...				
		...				

	Item	Response options				
13	Based on your experience, which of the statements about the potential disadvantage to clients of activating a trainable feature do you agree with? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Time consuming: clients have to spend extra time to train their hearing aids <input type="checkbox"/> Negative outcome: clients dislike hearing aids because they obtained inappropriate settings <input type="checkbox"/> Extra appointment: if training was initially unsuccessful, clients need to trial the devices longer and return to the clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Feeling of personal failure: clients return confused about the training concept <input type="checkbox"/> Masks slowly developing problems: if training is used long-term without follow-up, inappropriate settings or hearing changes go unnoticed <input type="checkbox"/> No disadvantage: I don't think there were any disadvantages to clients in using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> other:				
		Rate how important these disadvantages are to your clients				
			Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
		...				

[B. ActNonPros]

	Item	Response options				
3	Where did you first find out about a trainable feature in hearing aids?	<input type="checkbox"/> at a product launch OR from a sales rep <input type="checkbox"/> at a conference <input type="checkbox"/> as part of a continuous education program <input type="checkbox"/> during my audiology training <input type="checkbox"/> other:				
4	What was your motivation not to activate a trainable feature? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> I didn't think the client would understand the concept (e.g. poor cognition) <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't think the client would be able to train successfully (e.g. obtaining poorer settings) <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't think the client had enough hearing aid experience to use a trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing aid controls were already deactivated for management reasons (e.g. dexterity, vision problems) or client preference (e.g. prefer aids to be 'automatic') <input type="checkbox"/> I thought clients were not in need of fine-tuning when both the clients and I were happy with the hearing aid settings at the fitting <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I offered, but the client declined</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer manual fine-tuning relying on the client's descriptions <input type="checkbox"/> I didn't feel I knew enough about how the trainable feature would impact settings <input type="checkbox"/> I have been advised not to by my manager/clinical educator. <input type="checkbox"/> other:				
	Rate how important these items were in your decision not to activate the trainable feature (omits the ones in italics)		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
		...				
		...				

	Item	Response options				
5	<p>Condition: If not “prefer manual fine-tuning”</p> <p>If some/most of your considerations could be overcome, would you consider using a trainable feature?</p> <p>Please indicate on the scale from 1 (very unlikely) to 5 (very likely).</p>	<p>1. Very unlikely</p> <p>2. Unlikely</p> <p>3. Neutral</p> <p>4. Likely</p> <p>5. Very likely</p> <p>Comment:</p>				
6	<p>Which of the advantages of using a trainable feature listed below do you think could be relevant to you/your practice?</p> <p>Select all that apply</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Could be more cost-effective: less additional follow-up appointments needed</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Could be time-saving: more time available in the follow-up appointment(s) to discuss other rehabilitation aspects (e.g. communication tips, assistive listening devices)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Could increase client retention: improved client outcomes/satisfaction due to personal fine-tuning</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Could be a simpler fine-tuning process: no/less need to rely on client report for fine-tuning</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No advantage: I don't think there are any advantages to me/my practice using the trainable feature</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>				
	Rate how important these advantages would be to you/your practice		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
		...				
		...				

	Item	Response options																			
7	<p>Which of the client-related advantages of using a trainable feature listed below do you think could be relevant? Select all that apply</p> <p>Rate how important these advantages would be to your clients</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Could be convenient: fewer visits to the clinic after fitting or adjustment <input type="checkbox"/> Could increase psychological ownership: clients feel more involved with/ in control of their rehabilitation <input type="checkbox"/> Could improve outcome: clients are more satisfied as they obtained highly personalised settings <input type="checkbox"/> Could allow for on-going adjustments: clients can fine-tune their settings at any time in response to changes to their hearing, listening situation or preference. <input type="checkbox"/> No advantage: I don't think there are any advantages to clients in using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> Other: </p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Slightly important</th> <th>Moderately important</th> <th>Very important</th> <th>Extremely important</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>...</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>...</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important				
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...																					
...																					
8	<p>Which of the statements about the potential disadvantage to you/your practice of activating a trainable feature do you think could be relevant? Select all that apply</p> <p>Rate how important these disadvantages would be to you/your practice</p>	<p> <input type="checkbox"/> Could be less cost effective: additional time needed to explain the training concept during device selection and/or fitting <input type="checkbox"/> Could be time consuming: after obtaining inappropriate hearing aid settings, they are reset and an additional trial period started <input type="checkbox"/> Could create a bad image: the clients might think the hearing aid is doing all the fine-tuning because I can't <input type="checkbox"/> Could reduce the need for hearing care in the long term: clients can adjust their own hearing aids when their hearing changes <input type="checkbox"/> No disadvantage: I don't think there are any disadvantages to me/ my practice using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> Other: </p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Slightly important</th> <th>Moderately important</th> <th>Very important</th> <th>Extremely important</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>...</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>...</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important				
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9	Which of the statements about the potential disadvantage to clients of activating a trainable feature do you think could be relevant? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Could be time consuming: clients have to spend extra time to train their hearing aids <input type="checkbox"/> Could have a negative outcome: clients dislike hearing aids because they obtained inappropriate settings <input type="checkbox"/> Could need extra appointments: if training was initially unsuccessful, clients need to trial the devices longer and return to the clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Could create a feeling of personal failure: clients return confused about the training concept <input type="checkbox"/> Could mask slowly developing problems: if training is used long-term without follow-up, inappropriate settings or hearing changes might go unnoticed <input type="checkbox"/> No disadvantage: I don't think there are any disadvantages to the client using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
	Rate how important these disadvantages would be to your clients		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important

[C. PasNonPros]

	Item	Response options
3	Where did you first find out about a trainable feature in hearing aids?	<input type="checkbox"/> At a product launch OR from a sales rep <input type="checkbox"/> At a conference <input type="checkbox"/> As part of a continuous education program <input type="checkbox"/> During my audiology training <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
4a	Condition: if response to <i>item 1</i> is “No” (trainable HAs unavailable) or if response to <i>item 1a</i> is “0%” (trainable HAs available but not fitted) Would you use the trainable feature if it were available? Please indicate on the scale from 1 very unlikely to 5 very likely.	1. Very unlikely 2. Unlikely 3. Neutral 4. Likely 5. Very likely Comment:
4b	Condition: if response to <i>item 1</i> is “Don’t know” (if available for fitting) Would you use the trainable feature if it were available? Please indicate on the scale from 1 very unlikely to 5 very likely.	1. Very unlikely 2. Unlikely 3. Neutral 4. Likely 5. Very likely Comment:
4c	Condition: if response to <i>item 2</i> is “Don’t know” (if training was activated) If the fitting software would ask for your choice, would you use the trainable feature? Please indicate on the scale from 1 very unlikely to 5 very likely.	1. Very unlikely 2. Unlikely 3. Neutral 4. Likely 5. Very likely Comment:

	Item	Response options				
5a	Condition: if response to <i>item 4</i> is <3 Why do you consider it unlikely you would use the trainable feature? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> I don't think clients would understand the concept (e.g. poor cognition) <input type="checkbox"/> I don't think clients would be able to train successfully (e.g. obtaining poorer settings) <input type="checkbox"/> I don't think clients had enough hearing aid experience to use a trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> I think clients are not in need of fine-tuning when both the clients and I are happy with the hearing aid settings at the fitting <input type="checkbox"/> I often deactivate hearing aid controls for management reasons (e.g. dexterity, vision problems) or client preference (e.g. prefer aids to be 'automatic') <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer manual fine-tuning relying on the client's descriptions <input type="checkbox"/> I don't feel I know enough about how the trainable feature would impact settings. <input type="checkbox"/> I have been advised not to by my manager/clinical educator. <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
	Rate how important these items are in your decision		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
	...					
5b	Condition: if response to <i>item 4</i> is ≥ 3 (more likely than unlikely to use if available) Which client information would you consider before using the trainable feature? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Audiometric information <input type="checkbox"/> Cognitive status <input type="checkbox"/> Distance to the clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Diverse listening needs <input type="checkbox"/> Finger dexterity <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing aid experience <input type="checkbox"/> Interest in feature <input type="checkbox"/> Personality: very particular about settings <input type="checkbox"/> Use of assistive listening technology <input type="checkbox"/> Vision <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
	Rate how important these items would be in your decision to use the trainable feature		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
	...					

	Item	Response options				
6	Which of the advantages of using a trainable feature listed below do you think could be relevant to you/your practice ? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Could be more cost-effective: less additional follow-up appointments needed <input type="checkbox"/> Could be time-saving: more time available in the follow-up appointment(s) to discuss other rehabilitation aspects (e.g. communication tips, assistive listening devices) <input type="checkbox"/> Could increase client retention: improved client outcomes/satisfaction due to personal fine-tuning <input type="checkbox"/> Could be a simpler fine-tuning process: no/less need to rely on client report for fine-tuning <input type="checkbox"/> No advantage: I don't think there are any advantages to me/my practice using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
	Rate how important these advantages would be to you/your practice		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
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7	Which of the client -related advantages of using a trainable feature listed below do you think could be relevant? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Could be convenient: fewer visits to the clinic after fitting or adjustment <input type="checkbox"/> Could increase psychological ownership: clients feel more involved with/in control of their rehabilitation <input type="checkbox"/> Could improve outcome: clients are more satisfied as they obtained highly personalised settings <input type="checkbox"/> Could allow for on-going adjustments: clients can fine-tune their settings at any time in response to changes to their hearing, listening situation or preference. <input type="checkbox"/> No advantage: I don't think there are any advantages to the client using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
	Rate how important these advantages would be to your clients		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
		...				

	Item	Response options				
8	<p>Which of the statements about the potential disadvantage to you/your practice of activating a trainable feature do you think could be relevant?</p> <p>Select all that apply</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Could be less cost effective: additional time needed to explain the training concept during device selection and/or fitting <input type="checkbox"/> Could be time consuming: after obtaining inappropriate hearing aid settings, they are reset and an additional trial period started <input type="checkbox"/> Could create a bad image: the clients might think the hearing aid is doing all the fine-tuning because I can't <input type="checkbox"/> Could reduce the need for hearing care in the long term: clients can adjust their own hearing aids when their hearing changes <input type="checkbox"/> No disadvantage: I don't think there are any disadvantages to me/ my practice using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
	Rate how important these disadvantages would be to you/your practice		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
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9	<p>Which of the statements about the potential disadvantage to clients of activating a trainable feature do you think could be relevant?</p> <p>Select all that apply</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Could be time consuming: clients have to spend extra time to train their hearing aids <input type="checkbox"/> Could have a negative outcome: clients dislike hearing aids because they obtained inappropriate settings <input type="checkbox"/> Could need extra appointments: if training was initially unsuccessful, clients need to trial the devices longer and return to the clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Could create a feeling of personal failure: clients return confused about the training concept <input type="checkbox"/> Could mask slowly developing problems: if training is used long-term without follow-up, inappropriate settings or hearing changes might go unnoticed <input type="checkbox"/> No disadvantage: I don't think there are any disadvantages to the client using the trainable feature <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				
	Rate how important these disadvantages would be to your clients		Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	Extremely important
		...				

[Demographic items]

Item	Response options								
<p>The hearing aids listed below have a trainable/learning feature you can turn on/off.</p> <p>Please tick the hearing aids you have fitted.</p> <p>Hearing aids are listed by manufacturer in alphabetic order.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Manufacturer</th><th>Aid family</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Manufacturer	Aid family						
Manufacturer	Aid family								
<p>Finally, please provide some more information about yourself and your professional experience, this information will show whether we have captured responses from a range of professionals.</p> <p>Remember, all your answers are anonymous and confidential.</p>									
Please select your age category	<input type="checkbox"/> Younger than 25 y <input type="checkbox"/> 25 to 30 y <input type="checkbox"/> 31 to 40 y <input type="checkbox"/> 41 to 50 y <input type="checkbox"/> 51 to 60 y <input type="checkbox"/> older than 60 y								
Please indicate which gender you identify with	<input type="checkbox"/> female <input type="checkbox"/> male <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified								
In which setting(s) do you work as an audiologist/audiometrist:	<input type="checkbox"/> Commonwealth government <input type="checkbox"/> private practice <input type="checkbox"/> private practice – independent <input type="checkbox"/> private hospital <input type="checkbox"/> private medical practice <input type="checkbox"/> Community health <input type="checkbox"/> State/territory government (incl hospital, Local Area Health) <input type="checkbox"/> University <input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturer <input type="checkbox"/> Not-for-profit practice <input type="checkbox"/> Other:								
How many years you have been practising as an audiologist/audiometrist:	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 y <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 5 y <input type="checkbox"/> 6 to 10 y <input type="checkbox"/> 11 to 20 y <input type="checkbox"/> 21 to 30 y <input type="checkbox"/> 31 to 40 y <input type="checkbox"/> Over 40 y								
How many years have you been fitting hearing aids:	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 y <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 5 y <input type="checkbox"/> 6 to 10 y <input type="checkbox"/> 11 to 20 y <input type="checkbox"/> 21 to 30 y <input type="checkbox"/> 31 to 40 y <input type="checkbox"/> Over 40 y								
Select the professional organisation you are a member of:	<input type="checkbox"/> Audiology Australia <input type="checkbox"/> Australian College of Audiology <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Aid Audiometrist Society of Australia								

If you like, you can add more information about your thoughts on trainable features in the space below:	
You have completed the survey. Thank you very much for your participation.	

Survey for adults with a hearing impairment



Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. We would like the view of adults who have a hearing impairment. This includes those with and without hearing aid experience.

Please provide us with your honest opinion, you will not be able to be identified from the information you provide.

The survey uses the term “hearing aid/s”, this refers to either one or two hearing aids, as is or would be applicable to you.

[Changing the font size, instructions, participant information]

[Qualifying and contingency items]

Item	Response options
Firstly, please provide us with some information about yourself, so we can check if this survey is suitable for you.	
q1. Please select your age	<input type="checkbox"/> Younger than 18 y => <i>excluded (1)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> 18 to 30 y <input type="checkbox"/> 31 to 40 y <input type="checkbox"/> 41 to 50 y <input type="checkbox"/> 51 to 60 y <input type="checkbox"/> 61 to 70 y <input type="checkbox"/> 71 to 80 y <input type="checkbox"/> 81 to 90 y <input type="checkbox"/> older than 90 y
q2. Have you used hearing device/s in the last 10 years?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, only hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, only implantable device/s => <i>excluded (2)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, a combination of hearing aid/s and implantable device/s => <i>excluded (2)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> No
q3. Overall, how much difficulty do you have hearing (without hearing aid/s if you have them)?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1. No difficulty => <i>Excluded if "No" chosen for q2 (3)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Slight difficulty <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Moderate difficulty <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Quite a lot of difficulty <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Very much difficulty
Exclusion messages	<p>(1) As you are under 18 years of age, your contribution ends here. Thank you for your time.</p> <p>(2) Sorry, you do not qualify to take this survey, as we are looking for people with hearing aid experience only. Thank you for your time.</p> <p>(3) As you do not report any difficulty with your hearing, your contribution ends here. Thank you for your time.</p>

Hearing aid users are directed to "[Contingency items for hearing aid users" (p. 3)

Unaided adults with a hearing impairment are directed to "[C. Unaided adults with hearing impairment" (p. 7).

[Contingency items for hearing aid users]

Question	Response options
1. Have you heard about trainable or learning hearing aids?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> I might have heard about it, but I'm not sure <input type="checkbox"/> No
1b. Condition: if response to <i>item 1</i> is "Yes": How did you find out about this?	<input type="checkbox"/> I heard about it from my hearing aid provider when I chose my current hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> I found out about it online, researching hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> I heard about it from a friend/family member <input type="checkbox"/> I read about it in a newsletter (for example from a hearing support group) <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
2. Please read the description below. When you get new hearing aids, they are set for your hearing loss. Sometimes these settings do not work well in all situations. Now there are hearing aids you can optimize yourself by using the buttons on the hearing aid or on a remote control. As you change the settings to what you like, your hearing aids learn your preference for different situations. These hearing aids are called trainable because you train them in how you like to listen.	
3. Have you trained your hearing aid/s?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes => directed to "[A. Experience with trainable hearing aids", p. 4. <input type="checkbox"/> No => directed to "[B. Experience with hearing aids, not trainable", p. 6.

[Evaluation of experience or expectations][A. Experience with trainable hearing aids]

Question	Response options
4. How long did you train your hearing aid/s for?	<input type="checkbox"/> One week or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 2 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 2 to 3 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 3 to 4 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> More than 4 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing: I can/ could continue to train my hearing aid/s
5. How did you make most of the changes to your hearing aid/s during the training period?	<input type="checkbox"/> Using hearing aid buttons <input type="checkbox"/> Using a hearing aid remote control <input type="checkbox"/> Using both
6a. How easy did you find training your hearing aid/s?	1. Very difficult 2. Difficult 3. Neither 4. Easy 5. Very easy Comments:
6b. How did training your hearing aids change the sound quality?	1. Much worse 2. Worse 3. Stayed the same 4. Better 5. Much better Comments:
7a. What were the advantages you experienced because you trained your hearing aid/s? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> Personalisation: the settings are better in some listening situations <input type="checkbox"/> Convenience: fewer visits to the hearing centre <input type="checkbox"/> Involvement: I felt more involved with my hearing care <input type="checkbox"/> Fewer changes: after training the hearing aid/s, I made fewer changes to my hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> No advantage: I did not experience any advantages training my hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Question	Response options
<p>7b. What were the disadvantages you experienced because you trained your hearing aid/s? Select all that apply.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Time consuming: I had to spend extra time to train my hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> Worse sound quality: I didn't like the settings I obtained <input type="checkbox"/> Confusing: I found the process of training my hearing aid/s confusing <input type="checkbox"/> No disadvantage: I did not experience any disadvantages training my hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>
<p>8. If you needed new hearings aid/s and they could be trained, how likely is it that you would train your hearing aid/s again?</p>	<p>1. Very unlikely 2. Unlikely 3. Neutral 4. Likely 5. Very likely Comments:</p>

[B. Experience with hearing aids, not trainable]

Question	Response options
<p>4. Here is the same description again.</p> <p>When you get new hearing aids, they are set for your hearing loss. Sometimes these settings do not work well in all situations. Now there are hearing aids you can optimize yourself by using the buttons on the hearing aid or on a remote control. As you change the settings to what you like, your hearing aids learn your preference for different situations. These hearing aids are called trainable because you train them in how you like to listen.</p>	
<p>4a. Based on this brief description, would you like to train your hearing aid/s?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>4b. Condition: if “Yes” on <i>item 4a</i>: Why would you like to train your hearing aid/s? Select all that apply</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> I would be able to personalise my hearing aid settings for different situations <input type="checkbox"/> I would need fewer appointments to have my hearing aid/s adjusted <input type="checkbox"/> I would feel more involved with my hearing care <input type="checkbox"/> I would make fewer changes to my hearing aid/s over time <input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>
<p>4c. Condition: if “No” on <i>item 4a</i>: Why would you prefer not to train your hearing aid/s? Select all that apply</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> I don’t have enough experience with hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> I am not good with technology <input type="checkbox"/> I don’t want to or can’t use hearing aid controls <input type="checkbox"/> I don’t want to spend the time training my hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> I don’t want to be seen fiddling with the hearing aid/s when I’m out in company <input type="checkbox"/> The potential extra cost of the hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> I’m afraid the hearing aids would sound worse than the original <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer the professionals to set my hearing aid/s <input type="checkbox"/> I’m not sure, I would need more information <input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>

[C. Unaided adults with hearing impairment]

Question	Response options
0. Which of the following statements best describes your view of your current hearing status?	<input type="checkbox"/> I think I have a hearing problem. However, I am not yet ready to take any action to solve the problem, but I might do so in the future. <input type="checkbox"/> I know I have a hearing problem, and I intend to take action to solve it soon. <input type="checkbox"/> I know I have a hearing problem, and I am ready to take action to solve it now.
<p>1. Please read the description below.</p> <p>When you get new hearing aids, they are set for your hearing loss. Sometimes these settings do not work well in all situations. Now there are hearing aids you can optimize yourself by using the buttons on the hearing aid or on a remote control. As you change the settings to what you like, your hearing aids learn your preference for different situations. These hearing aids are called trainable because you train them in how you like to listen.</p>	
2. Based on this brief description, if/when you decided to try hearing aid/s, would you like the option of training your hearing aid/s?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2a. Condition: if "Yes" on <i>item 2</i> : Why would you like to train hearing aid/s? Select all that apply	<input type="checkbox"/> I would be able to personalise my hearing aid settings for different situations <input type="checkbox"/> I would need fewer appointments to have my hearing aid/s adjusted <input type="checkbox"/> I would feel more involved with my hearing care <input type="checkbox"/> I would make fewer changes to my hearing aid/s over time <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Question	Response options
<p>2b. Condition: if “No” on <i>item 2</i>:</p> <p>Why would you prefer not to train hearing aid/s?</p> <p>Select all that apply</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> I don't have any experience with hearing aid/s</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am not good with technology</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I don't want to or couldn't use hearing aid controls</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I wouldn't want to spend time training my hearing aid/s</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I wouldn't want to be seen fiddling with the hearing aid/s when I'm out in company</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The potential extra cost of the hearing aid/s</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I'm afraid the hearing aids would sound worse than the original</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I would prefer the professionals to set my hearing aid/s</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I'm not sure, I would need more information</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>
<p>3. Knowing hearing aids can be trained, do you now feel more ready to obtain a hearing aid?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Maybe</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Don't know</p>

[Demographic items]

Question	Response options
Finally, please provide some details about yourself, this information will show whether we have received opinions from a range of people. Remember, all your answers are anonymous and confidential.	
What is your gender?	<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified
What is the highest level of education you have completed?	<input type="checkbox"/> primary <input type="checkbox"/> year 10 <input type="checkbox"/> high school – year 12 <input type="checkbox"/> TAFE/ technical college <input type="checkbox"/> university
What is your current employment status?	<input type="checkbox"/> student; apprentice <input type="checkbox"/> employed full-time <input type="checkbox"/> employed part-time <input type="checkbox"/> house duties (stay at home parent) <input type="checkbox"/> unemployed <input type="checkbox"/> retiree
For how long do you feel you've had a problem with your hearing?	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 y <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 5 y <input type="checkbox"/> 5 to 10 y <input type="checkbox"/> 10 to 20 y <input type="checkbox"/> 20 to 30 y <input type="checkbox"/> 30 to 40 y <input type="checkbox"/> Over 40 y
Which organisation invited you to participate in the survey?	<input type="checkbox"/> Australian Hearing <input type="checkbox"/> National Acoustic Laboratories volunteer database <input type="checkbox"/> Neurosensory
Do you have any further comments or thoughts about trainable hearing aids?	
<i>Only for those with experience with hearing aids:</i> Think about how much you used your present hearing aid/s over the past two weeks. On an average day, how many hours did you use the hearing aid/s?	<input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> less than 1 hour a day <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 4 hours a day <input type="checkbox"/> 4 to 8 hours <input type="checkbox"/> more than 8 hours a day
You have completed the survey. Thank you very much for sharing your thoughts with us. Please note trainable hearing aid/s usually carry an extra cost. If you have any queries about your hearing aid/s and their features, please contact your hearing care provider. A list of hearing care providers can be found here: http://www.audiology.asn.au/index.cfm/consumers/audiology-services-directories/	