

Date sent:

Monday, April 16, 2012

Subject:

FCC Updates Standards on Mobile Phones and Hearing Aid Compatibility

There are many different wireless mobile phones available, and some of the wireless mobile phones work better with some hearing aids than others. The FCC has requirements for some, but not all, wireless phones to be hearing aid compatible.

On April 9, 2012, the FCC approved a new technical standard for testing phones for hearing aid compatibility (HAC). After this new standard is adopted and a 2-year transition period is completed, the Commission's rules requiring phones to be hearing aid-compatible will apply to handset operations over additional air interfaces and frequency bands. Stated another way, the Commission's HAC rules will now apply to a range of new technologies and will allow for more accurate measurements of hearing aid interference – i.e, the new standard will improve the measurement criteria for determining if a mobile phone is hearing aid compatible or not.

Shop around! When buying a mobile phone, it is important to find the phone that works best with your hearing aid.

To read more about the FCC new rules on hearing aid compatibility, please see:

AMENDMENT OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES GOVERNING HEARING AID-COMPATIBLE MOBILE HANDSETS.

http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0409/DA-12-550A1.doc

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http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2012/db0409/DA-12-550A1.txt

To learn more about shopping for a mobile phone that will work best with your hearing aid, please see:

<http://www.fcc.gov/guides/hearing-aid-compatibility-wireless-telephones>