

Some hearing aids now sold over the counter without prescription

Oct 17, 2022, 8:38pm • Updated 6d ago

By: **News 12 Staff**



Millions of Americans with hearing loss are celebrating a new move by the Food and Drug Administration that will allow some hearing aids to be sold over the counter and without a prescription.

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"I rely on them to hear the world around me."

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Sappir works with Easterseals New Jersey, helping many residents with hearing loss find jobs. She is also hearing impaired and says she relies on hearing aids, which can be very expensive.

"I was quoted at least \$8,000 last time I went to get hearing aids," she says.

Doctors estimate that 90% of the population with hearing loss can benefit from this new program.

"Hearing health is part of overall wellness, just as is your blood pressure, cholesterol, your weight, everything else to staying fit," says Barbara Kelley, executive director of the Hearing Loss Association of America.