

# A BETTER WAY TO HEARING HEALTH



**At Kaiser Permanente our integrated hearing care can lead to improved outcomes and lower costs.<sup>1</sup>**



**Hearing loss is the third most common health condition in the US, following heart disease and arthritis. Untreated, hearing loss can lead to higher levels of<sup>2</sup>:**

- Depression
- Cognitive Decline
- Social Isolation



**Hearing aids provide a number of clinically proven benefits, including improved communication and decreased listening effort. Other important benefits of correcting hearing loss with hearing aids include<sup>3</sup>:**

- Increased earning power
- Slower cognitive decline
- Better living
- Lower chance of an illness or injury



**Increased engagement in hearing health<sup>1</sup>.**

A Kaiser Permanente hearing aid benefit can increase the frequency at which employees have their hearing tested, which can ultimately improve their overall quality of life.

<sup>1</sup> 2019 internal Kaiser Permanente analysis: comparing accounts with and without a hearing aid benefit.

<sup>2</sup> Masterson, PhD; Bushnell, PhD; Themann, MA; Morata, PhD, "Hearing Impairment Among Noise-Exposed Workers — United States, 2003–2012," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, April 22, 2016.

<sup>3</sup> Beth McCormick, AuD., "Top 5 Benefits to Wearing Hearing Aids," Starkey (online), January 2016.

Kaiser Permanente members have coverage for medically necessary hearing tests, and some members may have coverage for hearing aids. Otherwise, the services described here are provided on a fee-for-service basis, separate from and not covered under your health plan benefits, and you are financially responsible to pay them. Clinical services are provided by providers or contractors of The Permanente Medical Group, Inc. or Southern California Permanente Medical Group. Results of services vary among patients and can not be guaranteed. Kaiser Foundation Hospitals may receive compensation for providing facilities and/or other support in connection with these services. For specific information about your health plan benefits, please see your *Evidence of Coverage*.

# HEARING WELLNESS CAN IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY AND THE QUALITY OF LIFE.



Hearing aids include a 3-year manufacturer repair and loss/damage warranty



Choose from a variety of high-quality, technologically advanced hearing aids



Return/Exchange Policy<sup>1</sup>



**kp.org** – learn more about the importance of hearing health, the hearing aid process, and center locations.

## SHOW EMPLOYEES YOU CARE

Adding a KP hearing benefit is easy, since you already have KP as your medical carrier. Look for these hearing aid benefits in your health plan options or ask your KP representative for competitive rates.

| Hearing Test | Hearing Aid Allowance | Allowance Frequency     | Warranties Included                        |
|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Included     | \$1,000               | Per ear every 36 months | 3-year manufacturer repair and loss/damage |
|              | \$2,000               |                         |  |
|              | \$2,500               |                         |  |
|              | \$3,000               |                         |  |

<sup>1</sup> Refer to your health plan benefits for detailed information.