

# 10

## ways to start talking about hearing

We know how hard it is to begin a conversation about hearing loss with a loved one, which is why we have put together 10 facts to help you get talking.

- 1** Most people feel their quality of life has improved since a close relative started using hearing aids.
- 2** Most modern hearing aids are designed so discreetly that they are practically invisible when worn.
- 3** Many hearing aid wearers experience a positive impact on their relationships when they start using hearing aids.
- 4** Using a hearing aid can actually slow down the deterioration of hearing.
- 5** 70% of hearing aid wearers become more outgoing after they start using hearing aids.
- 6** Hearing loss can impact on your work life, it can make participation in your work environment challenging.
- 7** In 60% of cases, the family of new hearing aid wearers found their relationship improved.
- 8** When a relative starts using a hearing aid, their immediate family often notice that they start acting more independently and with improved confidence.
- 9** Roughly 9 out of 10 people wearing a hearing aid feel that their friends accept them as they are.
- 10** Age-related hearing loss influences an individual's ability to hear warning signals such as sirens, smoke alarms, disaster warnings, on-coming cars and phones.

Sources: The National Council on the Aging (NCOA), 1999; The impact of Hearing Instruments on Quality of Life. Hear the World, 2012; Hearing is Living. Hear-it, 2006; Evaluation of the social and economic costs of hearing impairment.

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