



Audioprothésistes and Donald Berman Maimonides Geriatric Centre Launch a
Hearing Aid Reference Guide for Quebec Caregivers

May 3, 2011 - Carrying out a mandate to protect the public and to ensure the quality of professional services provided by hearing-aid acousticians, the Ordre des Audioprothésistes du Québec is proud to support a program aimed at maximizing the proper use of hearing aids. The program, which was developed by Nechama Surik in conjunction with the Donald Berman Maimonides Geriatric Centre, will launch province-wide this May, in accordance with Better Hearing Month.

Hearing loss affects 50% of the population 75 years and older. Because it can lead to social isolation and low self-esteem, hearing loss can impact one's emotional, social, psychological and physical well-being. The inability to hear properly, and therefore to communicate properly, can also result in improper diagnosis of cognitive impairment.

The program aims to:

- Improve overall communication with hard-of-hearing clients
- Improve communication between staff and hard-of-hearing clients
- Equip staff to help clients with hearing aids
- Improve services provided to clients
- Improve the effectiveness of interventions with clients

The Order has chosen this initiative to serve as the model for all centres around Quebec that deal with persons with hearing loss. The program has already considerably improved communication and the effectiveness of interventions between caregivers and users at Donald Berman Maimonides.

We are happy to share our experience with all centres, schools and hospitals throughout Quebec. We are confident that this reference guide will help people with hearing loss lead a better life. We will provide supplementary vocational training for all CHSLD employees starting this September.

For more information, contact:

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