

Free Hearing test

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Upon opening my local newspaper, I saw that oh-so-familiar ad. An attractive clinician in a white coat is intently probing her patient's ear with a video-otoscope, and the alarming words splashed across the top of the page are; yikes; enough to keep anyone awake at night: Hearing Loss? Or Maybe You Have Earwax?

But wait-there might be "other obstructions," it goes on to say. What would those be, do you suppose? (Years ago, our pediatrician found a popcorn kernel in our toddler's ear. Do you think there might actually be grown people walking around with popcorn in their ears?)

I suspect some folks are vaguely fascinated by the idea of a tour of their ear canal, not to mention a peek at their cerumen (that's the yucky stuff in your ears, by the way).

But just to entice you to check it out, they throw in a free hearing test too! If you flunk the freebie, you're "allowed" to "listen" to digital hearing aids right there in the office! And you can actually "save" \$1,000 or more on a teensy weensy hearing aid with artificial intelligence (that's the new buzz word these days) and totally automatic sound quality that cuts through the background noise and allows you to hide it discretely from the world. Imagine that!

But wait there's more! You are entitled to a generous 30-day trial period (they don't mention it's a state law). According to the coupon, there's only a week left to find out what you've got going on with those ears of yours. Hurry!