

## Changing Hearing Aid Prescriptions

**Audiologists may change the prescription of another audiologist and/or others authorized by the *Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 (RHPA)* to prescribe hearing aids only if he/she has established that such a change is in the patient/client's best interest and the audiologist complies with the Preferred Practice Guidelines of Hearing Aid Prescriptions.**

### Requirements

1. If the audiologist is of the professional opinion that a change in prescription would better suit the individual, the audiologist changing the prescription *must* contact the original authorized prescriber, with the patient/ client's consent, and obtain the prescribing audiologist's consent to change the hearing aid prescription, except as provided in Section 2.
2. Where the patient/ client is unwilling or the audiologist is unable to contact the original attending authorized prescriber, the audiologist changing the prescription *must* establish a relationship with the patient/ client and follow any of CASLPO's Preferred Practice Guidelines (PPGs) for Prescription of Hearing Aids. The audiologist must interview the patient, decide whether to reassess hearing (based on the audiologist's clinical judgment), make recommendations and institute a course of rehabilitation.
3. All changes and rationales must be documented in the patient/ client's record. The patient/ client must be informed of all benefits and limitations of any modifications, as well as any change of pricing. Lastly, the patient/ client needs to provide *informed consent* to any changes or modifications in a prescription.
4. Changes that do not alter the initial prescription may be made by the audiologist in order to improve the patient/ client's physical comfort while wearing the hearing aid (i.e., grinding or buffing sharp edges). All modifications must be documented in the patient/ client's record.