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New Possibilities with Roger

Presenter: Katherine Cardona

All right. Hello, everybody. My name is Katie Cardona. I'm a clinical trainer for Phonak, and I'm really excited to talk with you all today about one of my favorite pieces of technology in the audiology world, which is Roger. So you will learn a lot about Roger today.

There's so much more we can talk about. So I definitely encourage you. You still have questions, reach out to your clinical trainer, reach out to me, and we're happy to talk more about it. So after this course, participants will be able to list the new products in the Roger portfolio, list some of those benefits of using Roger, and list the microphone functions and use cases. So just a quick overview of the agenda.

So we're going to highlight the Roger portfolio and the description of Roger, some flexibility, some of the performance of Roger, what's compatible with what, how to demo Roger in your clinic, and then some additional resources.

So to start, let's just kind of talk about the general hearing impaired patient. Overall, we know that conversations are happening everywhere, in quiet, in noise, on the go, and our patients really need to be able to hear in a variety of these situations. Phonak hearing aids utilize something called smart speech technology, which is an umbrella term that runs within our automatic scene classifier autosense OS, and it seamlessly adapts depending on the environment for the patient. Now, this is just in traditional hearing aids, we also have our Roger technology to enhance patients listening even further.

With that being said, and having different features like noise reduction and adaptive microphones and things like that, we know that patients will still come in and still report difficulties hearing in certain situations. So even with the best fitted hearing aids fit to prescriptive targets, correct acoustic coupling, we know that 31% of hearing aid wearers report that they still have some difficulty hearing and background noise. And that's really, really common. That's not just something for our severe to profound hearing aid users. It also happens with people who have normal or near normal hearing.

So let's talk about a little bit about why that is. So. Hearing aids are designed to help with speech intelligibility and understanding in what we call the near field. So that distance is about 2 meters, I would say around six to 8ft. I'm going to get my laser pointer up so you can see along the x axis this near field versus far field.

So over distance, we know once we get to a certain point, the hearing aid microphones are not going to pick up the most clear sound. We also know that hearing aids are only going to work when it hits a certain noise level. So as you can see on the y axis, we go quiet up to loud and very loud. Within this green area of the hearing aid functionality, you're going to see things like directional microphones, noise cancellation algorithms, those types of things. But we know there is that limit when you hit a certain distance, and this is what we call the critical distance.

The goal of Roger is to help overcome this by having the microphone placed directly at the source and introducing our unique adaptive gain behavior to ensure that the signal is always above the noise. Now, one of the questions that I get very regularly is how is this different from a traditional remote microphone? So Phonak has our partner mic, and I love using this chart to kind of show where that's going to work. The partner mic is meant to help over distance and with a little bit of noise. But we know that once the noise gets to a certain level, the remote microphone technology in a partner mic, as well as other traditional remote microphone technologies, are not going to be able to overcome that noise.

And this is where Roger comes into play. So Roger helps very loud and with distance.

So let's talk about distance a little bit. And when I was learning about Roger initially, I always thought about the school system. So this is based on an article that was written regarding the typical classroom setting. We have several studies that have demonstrated the positive impact of sound field amplification on student learning. The ease of hearing their teachers reduces listening effort for students in these poor listening conditions.

So if you could imagine how loud a classroom is just in general, imagine adding hearing loss on top of that. So we know overall that speech intelligibility and understanding really decreases over distance. So in a study of children aged five to seven, we learned that speech recognition scores decreased from 89% correct, or decreased to 89% correct when words were presented from 6ft away. And as the distance got further, the scores decreased even more.

So you can see just by adding some more feet. So 24ft from 6ft, that speech score decreased to 36%. Now, imagine being in that classroom. We know that the teacher is usually standing at the front of the room. Hopefully, all of our pediatric cases do have preferential seating, but that's not always the case.

So by having Roger, this can help overcome that distance. This can also be true with adults. So, for example, I have a very good friend who wears hearing aids. She's been wearing hearing aids since she was a kid. She's been doing great with her hearing aids.

But overall, if we were in a noisy restaurant and I was sitting at one end of the table and she was sitting at the other. She was really struggling to hear. And one of the things that we did was we're like, hey, let's. Let's try a Roger on you. And the difference that it made with her has been absolutely incredible.

Even her husband, who has a very soft voice, has noticed how much better she is hearing by the use of Roger. So when you increase that speech output from that microphone, it's really helping overcome that distance, so it helps people hear with this additional boost of speech.

So what is Roger? So Roger is a system. Roger is a microphone and a receiver. It is not FM technology. A lot of people do sometimes equate the two together, but Roger is its own separate entity.

It is based off of a 2.4 GHz signal. So it does use Bluetooth, but it is a proprietary signal from Phonak. It is not FM technology. So because it operates on this worldwide standard of the 2.4 GHz, it can be used anywhere in the world where FM technology had a limitation due to the fact that it used FM frequencies. I always, always stress the importance that you have a microphone, also known as a transmitter and a receiver.

If you don't have those two, Roger will not work. So there's a bunch of different options on how these work together for people and different ways that we can set this up.

Okay, so let's take a look at the portfolio. So, with our Roger system, we separate the Roger system as a Roger for home and work, and a Roger for education portfolio. And not saying that they can't be interchanged, this is just where they typically are used. So let's take a look at the Roger microphones. So, in your Roger for home and work portfolio, you have the Roger on the Roger table mic, and the Roger select.

The receivers that you would use with these microphones would either be Roger direct, which we'll talk about, a Roger neck loop, which is used off of a telecoil, or a Roger focus two, which is an ear level receiver. In our Roger for education portfolio, you can see a few different things. We have a Roger touchscreen mic, a Roger pass around mic, and a Roger multimedia hub. Now, there's a little star here that's saying that is a transmitter. So it's a transmitter only and does not work as an actual microphone that someone can speak into.

For our receivers, we have Roger direct, a Roger neckloop, a Roger focus Roger X, and a digimaster speaker system. So these are all of the combinations, and we'll spend more time getting into all of them. But first, let's talk about some flexibility. Roger provides this unrivaled flexibility for addressing a host of situations, as well as the patient being able to control when they're in that situation. We're going to talk through a bunch of different microphone modes, and then we'll review which modes are used by

which microphone.

I will say that all of these are used by the Roger on microphone. So this is what we're going to use as our baseline.

So the first microphone mode is a table mode. This feature was first developed with the Roger select and the Roger table mic. This technology automatically activates the microphone beam with the best signal to noise ratio. It combines the output of three microphones to produce six different beams. And you might say, how does this work?

So we use something called multi beam technology, and what that does is it analyzes the signal to noise ratio of each directional beam hundreds of times per second. So you can see with Phonak, we're really big with automation. And when we look at which has the loudest s and R, that's where we determine where speech is. So users that have Roger direct in their hearing aids get an extra benefit of stereo, where if the speaker is on the right, the roger signal is slightly louder in the right hearing aid, just to help with localization. For the Roger on table mode is automatically activated when the microphone is placed flat on the horizontal surface.

So you'll hear me talk about automation with the Roger on. Specifically, the roger on has an accelerometer built into the actual microphone. So based on the position of where the microphone is, that's the mode that it's going to be in the. So I'm going to use the example of my friend who's wearing Roger. If we're out to dinner and there's four or five of us at the table and we know it's a loud environment, she'll put her Roger in the center of the table and she can pick up all of us sitting there talking.

She doesn't have to worry about if I'm at the other end and she can't hear me as well. Roger really helps overcome that. Just a little side note, we're talking about different modes and microphones. I

mentioned multi beam technology that is only available when using Roger direct. So that is with use of phonak hearing aids.

Only when the Roger microphone is used with a universal receiver such as a neck loop or Roger X plugin, you're not going to get the benefit of a little bit louder on the one side to help with localization. It's just going to be a single signal.

The second case, which is where I see this used a lot, is presenter mode. So presenter mode is like someone would be wearing a partner mic, so it clips on to their shirt or their blouse or there is a neck loop that they can wear. And what happens is because the microphone is picking up this person's voice, it's going to send the signal into the patient's hearing aids. Thanks to that internal accelerometer, the roger on knows what position it's being placed in and oughta automatically ensures that the microphone pointing upward is going to be the one being used. The best range for this is about eight inches from their mouth.

So I always say I like to clip it to my collar. If you have the lanyard, it's better to tighten the lanyard so it's not swinging back and forth. I personally like the clip. That's just me. The cool thing is, even if it's angled a little bit, the accelerometer knows that it needs to be picking up the person that is speaking.

The way I see this being used on a regular basis, I use this when I give presentations plenty of times. If someone has a hearing aid that can use Roger or we have universal net groups that people can use, I will clip the Roger microphone to myself. It will send my voice into the patient's hearing aids. That way they can hear me regardless of where they are in the room and they don't always have to be sitting right at the front. We know one of the challenges that a lot of hearing impaired folks face is that they don't want to admit that they have a hearing loss.

So having them sit up front just able to hear better. As much as we would love everybody to do that, we know not everybody's going to.

Now let's talk about pointing mode. So pointing mode was first introduced with the Roger pen. So if anybody remembers the Roger pen, it looked kind of like a marker. And we talked about pointing mode or interview mode where the person wearing the hearing aids with the Roger direct installed would take the microphone and point it to the person that they wanted to hear. With Roger on and pointing mode 2.0, it utilizes the three microphones instead of only two, like the Roger pen, and it creates well defined zooming beep formers.

So it allows the Roger to really focus on one person when it's held at that angle. The pickup distance is about four to 10ft, depending on the background noise. I will say I've seen it pick up a little bit further, but I would definitely recommend staying relatively close. So I want you to think about someone who say, is at a cocktail party or they're at like a reception, it's going to be difficult for them to take it and hand it to each person that they're talking to so they can clip it to their shirt and then, oh, we're done convers, we're done talking. Let me take it off and put it on the next person so that can be really awkward.

So with pointing mode, if someone's sitting there and say they have their drink, like, I have my Starbucks here, I can hold this, and then I can just have my Roger and just point it and just direct it at the person that I want to hear. I can also see this would be really good in, say, you're going to a grocery store and can't hear the cashier as well. Or if you are doing some social distancing, it allows the person who needs the roger to just point it and be more discreet about using the Roger. The other thing I really like, and I've thought about this many times, is we all know that sometimes in healthcare providers, typically not audiologists or hearing instrument dispensers, not all providers tend to enunciate and look at the patient when they're talking to them. So you could think about being in a doctor's office and just

pointing it at the doctor so you can hear them a little bit better.

Or on the flip side, say you're a medical assistant or a nurse who needs to do intake for a patient. You don't want to have each individual patient clipping on your Roger microphone. What you can do is you could have it attached to a clipboard and then just point it towards the patient, make your notes. And that microphone, being in pointing mode, is going to pick up what the patient is saying. As you can see just from these first couple of modes, there are so many ways that you can use Roger in your everyday life.

So this is something new with Roger three, but there is a firmware update that will make this compatible with previous generations of the Roger on. So this is our first new feature that we're introducing today, and it's called wide pointing mode. So wide pointing mode was designed to be used both handheld as well as on the table. And it offers several advantages as an alternative in both of these situations. So compared to pointing mode, it offers the simplicity of not having to focus a narrow beam on one speaker at a time.

So you can see we're looking at a wider angle, angle of amplification and then stereo mode for better localization of sound. So telling if the speaker is more to the right or to the left compared to table mode, it's giving a greater range of speakers that may be further away than the typical multi beam distance of about 2 meters. Also, the three dimensional pickup range compared to a more flatter type of beamform in table mode is really beneficial for bringing that signal in.

We know that this new feature allows greater versatility, and that's what we really want for all of our patients. Otherwise, you would have to use pointing mode with lots of moving, or table mode, which is really isolated to that flat surface. This feature can only be activated via the Myroger mic app, which is a very easy app to use. It can be enabled on all Roger on microphones. So the new Roger three, the Roger on and the Roger on version two, all you have to do is use the Roger upgrader, and there's a

firmware update that will give access to this feature.

So I love the way this picture is. It's sitting on the table of this, this panel discussion. So there's four people talking. So we don't want it to be picking up everybody in case there's a couple of people mumbling in that front couple of rows, but we're able to pick up the speakers in that area.

So we talked about how the accelerometer is used to activate the different microphone positions when someone is using the Myroger mic app with their Roger on, they also have the flexibility to manually select microphone modes. So this can be done. The most simple way is by using the Myroger mic app. The other way is to press the center button to lock the microphone mode. So you can see some other things that can be done.

You can change the beam formers. So if you think about how the Roger select works, where you can select two different areas, you can do that within the app, and you can manually switch the mic mode between auto table pointing and presenter while in the Myroger mic app. Like I said, for our patients who just want easy, the Roger microphone has a built in accelerometer, so it's going to automatically change positions based on where you have the microphone set.

So there are some updates to the Myroger mic app. So it's all done to improve functioning and ease of use for our patients. So when you connect a set of hearing aids or a Roger to the app, and it knows it's connected to two hearing aids, it'll show you that stereo mode is now available which is that wider beam former. There's also a change of naming convention calling to the coming to the Myroger mic app. So to anticipate the fact that stereo mode can be used in table mode as well as the new y pointing mode, the configuration setting has been renamed to stereo mode instead of saying multi beam 2.0.

All right, I know that can get a little bit confusing. I really encourage everybody, if you get the chance to play around with the Myroger mic app, it is so easy use. Now, I do want to jump back to microphone

modes because there are two more to cover. So the next one is going to be an audio streaming mode. This is going to be really beneficial for all patients.

So the Roger on and the Roger select have this docking station. This can be used for charging, and it can also be used plugged into a tv or even a computer or a tablet or anything that has an audio jack. And you can have the signal go from that device into the hearing aids. So it also comes with an optical cord. So if you think this might be able to be used instead of a tv connector.

So if someone wants a remote microphone and a tv connector, they can get a roger and it's going to work both ways.

And finally, we have headset mode. So this supports two way communication. This was introduced with our Roger on version two, which came out last year. And what happened previously is if you took a roger device and you plugged it into a computer, it would send the signal from the computer into the patient's hearing aids. But if we were doing a call like this, it would have to rely on the hearing aid microphones or an external microphone to pick up the person's voice.

With headset mode, the roger is now acting just like my headset. So I have my headset on. You can't hear if my cats are breaking something in the other room. You just hear me when it's plugged in, you will see this little headset pop up. And what will happen is the signal from the computer will be streamed into the hearing aids.

And on the flip side, we are now using the Roger microphone to send the patient signal, voice signal into the computer. You can imagine how this is going to reduce background noise for incoming audio signal, which is really, really great. And same thing, it can be used in a multitude of ways. It can be flat on the table, say you're having a group discussion and everybody's connected to one Roger. It can be in table mode, you can have it slanted, and it can be in pointer mode or interview mode, or it can be

clipped to the person's shirt and work in presenter mode.

And like I said, this is going to work exactly the way my headset's working here. The microphone is going to be close to my mouth. We're going to improve that signal going into the computer.

So there are different microphone modes to meet everyone's individual needs. So just to take a look at all of the different options, and I know there's a lot we focused on the Roger on, and that's because the Roger on is the most versatile microphone that we have. It can be used in table mode, presenter mode, pointing mode, wide pointing mode, audio streaming mode, and headset mode. For most of your patients, this is going to be the Roger microphone that's going to give them the most flexibility. And we have a few other microphones that we need to talk about.

So our Roger table mic, our Roger table mic is going to work in table mode, but you can also plug it in for audio streaming mode. Remember that audio streaming mode is just a one way signal where headset mode is a two way signal. Your roger select. It can function in table mode and also presenter mode. What that comes with, instead of a clip, it has a lanyard that it snaps into, and someone can wear that around their neck and send their voice into a set of hearing aids as well as audio streaming mode with the docking station.

Now, a few, couple of different things that you don't see in the Roger for home portfolio, but you see in the Roger for education portfolio. The first one is the Roger touchscreen mic. This is something that I always think of as kind of like the overall head honcho in the education platform. So this can function as table mode, which sometimes is also referred to as small group mode. It can function in presenter mode, which is when someone wears it as a lanyard.

So also called lanyard mode. There is a way to activate pointing mode. And same thing. You can also plug this in for audio streaming.

Now, the other thing that I like to point out is this Roger multimedia hub. So this is considered a transmitter. It is not a microphone. But what this does is you can use this in a series with the Roger touchscreen mic in a classroom. So the way I've used this when I've given plenty of talks is that I will have the Roger touchscreen mic that I am wearing in presenter mode or lanyard mode, whichever one you want to call it.

I then have the multimedia hub paired to my Roger touchscreen because that's the master. And then I have that plugged into whatever I'm streaming from. So whether it's a presentation or I have some video clips and that is plugged into that sound source, that means that that sound source is now going to stream through any of the Roger receivers. So whether it's the digimaster speaker or to a patient's hearing aids or a set of headphones that we have plugged into a Roger neck loop, it's going to go through that. And my voice coming through the Roger touchscreen mic, they're not going to be competing.

It's going to be 50 50. So think about a school. If you have a teacher who is talking and showing a video, but she wants to talk over the video, like, hey, pay attention to this part. By using this type of setup, the student in the classroom is going to have the media signal streamed directly into their hearing aids, as well as getting that input from the teacher as well.

All right, now you can see that the Roger on can pretty much do it all, and that's why we focus on it so much. But there's obviously other microphones, and table mic is exclusively in table mode. Why would you want this? Why would you not want the flexibility of switching modes? Well, it comes down to another way that you can use the Roger microphones, and that is a multi talker network.

This is where things with Roger get really fun, and you get to put everything together. So a multi talker network allows Roger microphones to be networked so that inputs from multiple places can be picked

up. For example, on the left is this business meeting. The presenter can wear the Roger on, which is going to be locked in presenter mode. The table mic can be placed on the table, so it's going to be able to pick up the signals for group collaboration.

And whoever is wearing the hearing aids is going to get that signal into their ears. On the right, you can see a classroom, and this is the one we were just talking about. So, networking a touchscreen mic that the teacher's wearing to a multimedia hub, which is playing a movie, the students wearing the hearing aids can hear both the video and the teacher's commentary at the same time. When you think about how you can link all these together, it is absolutely so much fun, the different types of combinations you can put together.

So creating a network is easy. However, it's really important to remember that the microphones must be from the same family to work together. By family, I mean the home and work portfolio versus the education portfolio. So that means a Roger on could be connected to a table mic because they're both in the work, the work and home portfolio, but it cannot be connected to a passaround mic. A touchscreen mic can be connected to both a multimedia hub and a pass around mic, but not a Roger select.

Like I said, there are so many different ways that this can be put together in these amazing combinations. So if you have questions, I definitely want you to reach out to your local Phonak rep or clinical trainer, and we're happy to go over it with you. I always think about people who have to listen in very challenging environments. So one of my favorite setups that I've done was a very, very, very busy businessman. He ended up purchasing a few different Rogers where he had to be in some meetings, and he had a couple of assistants that would talk closely to him during the meetings.

But he also needed to make sure he heard everything that was going on at the end of the table. What he ended up doing is he would have a Roger table Mike down at the further end of the table to hear

everybody down there. And the people that were sitting there closest to him, which were his assistants, they actually had the Roger ons, and the Roger ons would be clipped onto their shirts. And when you make this multi talker network, the Roger on and the Roger select are going to lock in presenter mode. So his assistants were wearing the roger on it, picked up their voices directly, since those were the people he really needed to hear for whatever, whatever came up.

But then the table mic was down at the other end of the table, so he was also hearing that conversation. The other setting that I've done is having a college professor where you can imagine a college lecture hall where it's huge and they need to hear multiple parts of the room. He had multiple Roger microphones, and it was the Roger table mics networked together that anywhere someone was talking, he was able to hear their voices. Now we'll chat a little bit about how that was done, because that can get quite expensive. His university did pay for that for him.

Like I said, we'll talk about that in a little bit. But like I said, you can see how many different configurations we have for the Roger microphones and the multi talker networks.

With Roger, there's really a solution for any situation. It provides unparalleled flexibility with multiple microphone modes, and options for activating those modes and ways to link them together. The great thing is it can be as simple or as hands on as the patient wants. They can leave it at automatic and just use the accelerometer to change mic modes. Or if they have the Roger on.

They can use the Myroger mic app if they want to have a little bit more control.

All right, so I've talked about how cool this is, but let's really talk about the performance. So we know Roger outperforms traditional FM systems. So going back to when Roger was first introduced, Professor Linda Thibodeaux at the Collier center at UT Dallas explored how speech understanding with new digitally modulated Roger signals compared to more traditional FM signals. You can see that the

use of Roger systems in combination with hearing instruments resulted in significant improvements, especially at that higher noise level. So just looking at this graph, so across the x axis, we have the noise level.

So from very quiet all the way up to 80 decibels, and we looked at percent correct with speech understanding. And you can see, you know, in quiet, low levels of noise, traditional FM, dynamic FM, and Roger are all functioning pretty similarly. But when you hit higher noise levels, you can see that traditional FM and dynamic FM start to drop off while Roger still takes the cake.

My other favorite thing to talk about is how Roger helps those with hearing loss understand ten times better than people with normal hearing. So we have a well documented history of demonstrating speech intelligibility improvements with Roger and noyes and over distance. So this other study by Linda Thibodeaux, this time compared wearing people who were wearing hearing aids and Roger to individuals with normal hearing sensitivity. So those with hearing aids and Roger are the green bars. Those with normal hearing are the gray bars.

So you can see in noise low levels pretty similar. As the noise gets louder, those with Roger are outperforming. By the time we hit 70 decibels, 75 decibels of noise, you can see how well those patients with Roger are performing. So just at 65 dba, you are already seeing a 25% improvement in speech recognition. When Rogers and included.

That's huge. If you think about how beneficial this is to patients, it's really mind blowing.

So, one of the things that I also like to mention is Roger technology improves speech understanding up to 61% when compared to users wearing only hearing aids and group conversation. So let's think about this. We know that patients have trouble in background noise. That's why usually they come in and see you in the first place. And we know that even being fit with the best technology set to prescriptive

targets, we know that patients are still struggling.

So adding the second system, which is Roger, you can improve speech understanding up to 61%. On top of that. I think that's worth it. I think that's amazing. And think about how much our patients are in these types of environments where there is loud noise.

So family meals, going to restaurants, going to parties, what a difference this can make in listening effort for patients. And they can keep doing the things that they love.

And let's not forget about our kiddos. We have some specific pediatric research as well. So we know the proven benefits of Roger with significant improvement in speech understanding and noise compared to traditional fm. In fact, compared to hearing aids alone, they get 32% better speech understanding by using Roger. Like I said, that's pretty big.

That's huge.

So let's take a look at what else the researchers showed us. When children are using Roger, they have access to 5300 more words per day than if they were just using hearing aids alone.

They can access as much as 12% more child directed speech.

According to parents, kids appear to be more alert, engaged and attentive in their daily activities in their classrooms.

And we know children are there to be developing more receptive skills. So if you look at those children with similar hearing loss and similar socioeconomic backgrounds, those who use Roger at home are significantly better with their receptive discourse skills. We know Roger provides improved signal to

noise ratio and better access to both quantity and quality of words and conversations. So it's really important that those young brains are developing language, social emotional skills. And using Roger is only going to enhance this even more.

So let's just talk about ease of use, because I know that Roger can be a little daunting. So 82% of Rod of Roger users find their microphone easy to use. 86% of roger users state they communicate, participate, and contribute in meetings more effectively. 90% of Roger users would recommend it to their friends and family. And 100% of participants preferred using a roger system to using hearing aids alone.

And the main thing we attribute this to is our adaptive gain.

The main thing that sets Roger apart from traditional microphones is going to be the adaptive gain. What that means is as the noise gets louder, the Roger signal is also increasing to give up to a 20 decibels and our boost.

If we look in target, you'll see something that says adaptive microphone behavior. And there's two options. There's standard, which is going to be your default and dual. So let's look at standard adaptive technology. So this is similar to the picture that I just showed you before, where as the noise gets louder, the Roger signal is going to increase and hearing a microphones are going to say stable.

Like I said, we're giving up to a 20 decibels and our boost how much of an increase there is depends on overall the type of noise that you're in, how much headroom is available at the hearing aids and all of those features. But at max, it's going to be 20 dbs in our boost. But we know that that 20 decibels boost is going to be uncomfortable for a lot of people. So we have something called dual adaptive. So when Marvel was launched, we also launched this dual adaptive gain method.

So we still have the ten decibels advantage from the microphone placement. But you can see that as the noise gets louder, instead of just increasing the Roger signal, there gets to a point where we decrease the microphone signal as well. This could be preferred by patients who have recruitment or other loudness sensitivity issues.

So something else that's new with our Roger on three is going to be smart mute. So what smart mute means is that if someone is using Roger and they mute the microphone, what's going to happen is it's going to automatically switch back into autosense or the most recently used program. The reason this is cool. So think about if you're in a meeting and say you're taking a break from a meeting, you don't want to go and act and have to physically turn the roger off, you can just mute the microphone, and the hearing aid is going to go back into autosense. And that means the patient can just walk around and hear normally until that Roger microphone is unmuted.

We've also added a scratch resistant display, so it's better resistant to scratches when it's not being used in the case. We know that people can be tough on their hearing aids and they're also tough on their rogers. So we want to make sure it stays at optimal performance.

So let's talk a little bit about compatibility. We've talked about the flexibility and performance, but people also want to know, well, how does, how do I get these to work? So what Roger receiver do you need? So our current direct receiver is called Roger direct, which are installed into the hearing aids. This is going to work with phonak hearing aids only.

Then we have some universal receivers, such as a Roger Neckloop that works on t coil Roger X, which is just a universal plug receiver. And then our Roger focus two, which is our ear level receiver. We also have some integrated receivers which can be used specifically with implantable devices.

Just taking a walkthrough history, if you take a look at all of the different receiver boots that we used to have, if you can imagine, and if anybody on this, on this call is as old as I am, I remember having to physically put boots on hearing aids and it was a pain. You always dropped the pin. That's how it always worked. Sometimes the boot was in a different color than the hearing aid. So over time, we made it.

So this is a more seamless process. So in 2019, we launched Roger Direct. And Roger direct is going to be what we use today. So before you would have the hearing aid with a boot on the bottom. With Roger direct, there is no need to attach an external receiver we digitally install.

So think of like airdropping a receiver into the hearing aid. That means no more deciding which receiver to use, no more dealing with the tamper proof Roger receiver. No more lost pins in the carpet, no more stickers on contacts, and no more losing the receiver. Thanks to Rogerdirect, we have some other benefits. So that means the devices can now be up to 42% smaller because we don't have a boot on the bottom and we're using less battery.

Now, our newest Roger is going to be the Roger three. You will get the Roger on three, the Roger select three, the Roger table, mic three, or the Roger touchscreen three. And you don't just get one or two, but you get an unlimited number of digital receivers that are now built into the microphones themselves. So previously, if you had ordered a Roger on in, that in meant that you had two receivers in the hearing aid or in the microphone to transfer into the hearing aid. We've done away with that.

All Roger microphones are going to have unlimited digital receivers.

So this is a game changer. So before, if you had a receiver not included in a microphone, you had to do use the Roger installer pad to transfer the technology from a Roger X into the hearing aid. And same thing with those Ian microphones, you were limited to two receivers. So if someone had a backup

hearing aid that they wanted paired to their Roger, or they would have to purchase another Roger receiver. If they lost their hearing aid, they would have to do the loss in damage on not just the hearing aid, but also the Roger receiver.

So now with our Roger three, it includes unlimited digital receivers. There's a simple, simpler and faster installation process. There's no need for uninstalling receivers and there's no extra hardware. So the goal was to really make this as easy as we could for you all. And what you will do to install the receivers with the Roger on.

You will press the center button and the pairing button on the back and you will see the hearing, the receiver go into the hearing aid with the Roger select, you will press the power button and the connect button for 2 seconds. For our educational audiologist with the touchscreen mic, as you slide through the menu, there's going to be a Roger direct icon. You press play and it's going to install the receiver into the hearing aid.

So this is really here to make things so much easier for you. No more additional hardware, no lost time installing and uninstalling receivers. And we make it more simplified for you all in knowing which Roger you need to order. So let's chat about some universal receivers. So we do have the Roger neckloop, and this can be used any time that someone has a telecoil.

And that doesn't just mean we're Phonak hearing aids. So if there is another, if there's a patient who has another manufacturer's hearing aids and you want them to benefit from Roger technology, they can manually go into their telecoil program, turn on the telecoil neck loop, which is then paired to a Roger microphone. This can also be plugged in to a computer and used for speech to text applications. And this is a good way of having so many people be able to use Roger, not just Phonak users.

And let's chat a little bit about the Roger focus two. So the Roger focus two is our ear level receiver. This looks just like a hearing aid, except there's no amplification. So this is like someone wearing earbuds and they're just getting the signal wirelessly sent into their ears. This is compatible with all Roger microphones.

So think about your kiddos who maybe have auditory processing or ADHD. This is going to benefit them if we can't do a hearing aid with low gain.

So let's talk briefly about demoing Roger. What you want to do is make sure that you have noise in the room. We know that patients hear well in our offices because it's so quiet. But you can demo this in your office so you can have the mic muted, turn on the sound source, see how they're doing. Any of your phonak trial devices are going to have receivers already installed.

So you can just easily pair the two together and you can talk about the patient's different situations and how they would use this talk, have their spouse wear it for a few minutes and see how they can hear their spouse so much better.

And I always want to point out that 60% of Roger users have a mild to moderate hearing loss. When I was in clinic, I only thought about Roger for my severe to profound patients. But really, anybody can benefit from Roger.

And just a brief, brief update on some resources. This can all be found on phonak.com dot. We do have something called Rogerpedia, which I call the bible of Roger. It talks about candidacy, it talks about all the microphones. It also talks about which integrated receiver goes with which implant.

If you are not an implant audiologist like me, we also have some videos on our YouTube page talking about Roger. And we have our Roger configurator where you can say, okay, they have this brand of

hearing aids. This is the model. What are you looking for? And it gives you an idea of which Rogers you need to order which receivers, which microphones.

Now, I did mention previously that that patient who was a professor, their university ended up paying for the Rogers, the ADA. So Americans with Disabilities act requires reasonable accommodations as they relate to employment. So if this is going to be something that helps someone perform their job, any business that has 15 or more employees, the patient can apply for what we call reasonable accommodations. We have some pre templated letters on our website, more than a hearingaid.com, and that will help you as a provider give the information to your patient that they can submit a to their company and have their company pay for Roger.

And there's just a few steps. So determine what Rogers needed trial the Roger at work. You submit the appropriate letters, set up an appointment, and then you provide a copy to the employer so you still get paid.

And this is just a brief overview of what our website looks like. And it talks about which Roger is going to be the best for the patient. If they decide, you know, they want to go with Roger, which situations are they having trouble in, and it will guide them to which Roger is the best.

We do have some marketing material about Roger and reasonable accommodations. Reach out to your Phonak team locally to get some of this information.

So let's do a quick wrap up. So what's new with Roger on we have stereo wide pointing mode, a new scratch resistant layer. We have smart mute, where it's going to pop back into Autosense when the Rogers muted. We have improved my Roger Mike app, usability, and the best thing, unlimited receivers.

So when you think about Roger, think about a few things. Think about how it's adaptive. As background noise gets louder, the Roger signal also gets louder. It's automatic. So patients aren't having to press buttons.

They can just turn the Roger on. It gives access to multiple talkers with a multi talker network that you can set up with multiple microphones, and it is compatible. So although Roger direct is going to be the gold gold star, Roger is compatible with almost any hearing aid or cochlear implant.

All right, so thank you all for joining to chat about Roger today. Like I said, I can talk about Roger for hours and hours and hours on end, so if you have any questions, you can pop them in the chat. I haven't seen any pop through, but please reach out to your local phonak team if you want to set up a demo with Roger for you to hear it for yourself, and then also to learn more about Roger. I'll hang out for a couple of minutes if anybody has any questions. If not, I hope everybody has a great day.

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