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Genie 2 Fitting Focus Series: Oticon Own SI First Fit

Presenter: Keri Salvatore

Foreign hello everyone and welcome to our Genie 2 fitting focus series. My name is Keri Salvatore and I am a regional audiologist at oticon. In this short course, we will cover how to easily and successfully complete an initial fitting of our OTICON OWN SI product Family. Own SI was designed for your patients who prioritize discretion above all else, and it has the audiology benefits you want them to have by the end of this course. It is my hope that you will be able to explain the process of pairing and connecting OTICON Own SI instruments using the Genie 2 fitting software.

List the required initial fitting steps for OTICON OWN SI and find the more Sound intelligence and sudden sound stabilizer tools in the Genie 2 fit screen and describe the controls available on screens.

Here are the risks and limitations inherent in today's course and this slide will be in your course handout.

So let's get started. OTICON OWN SI is available in our two smallest styles, Invisible IIC in the Canal and Completely in the Canal cic. It is available in five faceplate and shell color options to ensure maximum discreetness. Transparent Clear is also an option as well as transparent red and blue shell colors for patients who would benefit from additional support in identifying the left versus the right device. ONSI is available in four performance levels.

For the purpose of this course, we will be simulating an own SI1 fitting.

I'd like to quickly review the current programming devices for fitting our products. For wireless programming we Recommend NOAA link Wireless2, but you can still use the original NOAA Link Wireless. And then for wired programming we recommend Hi Pro 2 or ExpressLink. Some of the older wired programmers may still work, but they will be considerably slower.

Our IIC and CIC devices are fit using this programming Adapter Mini combined with cable number three Cable and the Programming Adapter Mini connects the devices with Oticon Genie 2 using two small battery contacts that actually act as the programming connectors. This helps us reduce the size of the hearing aids because the two small battery contacts on the programming Adapter Mini mean that we don't need any extra openings in the battery door.

So here are the steps to use the Programming Adapter Mini. First you're going to detach the battery drawer by opening it approximately halfway and pulling carefully.

Then you'll insert the programming Adapter Mini into the battery compartment similar to connecting a battery door. Then you'll connect the programming cable number three, being careful to line up the red and blue dots just like that, and now you're ready to connect and program. So now I'm going to Switch over to our Genie 2 fitting software to walk you through an Oticon own SI initial fitting for both an IIC and CIC.

Okay, so earlier this year, Genie 2 was updated with a new, more modern look. The fitting flow has been optimized, and you will now find your menus along the left side of the screen here. Welcome, Prepare, Fit and Finish. And at the time of this recording, our current Software version is 2025.1. If you need to check which software version you have, you can click on the question mark down here in the bottom left corner and then you'll click about.

And this top line here will show you your software version.

So I just want to orient you to how the software is laid out along the left side of the screen. You have the table of contents listing the screens that you can go through within your four main pages. And this table of contents panel can be pinned or unpinned to give you a larger viewing area. You'll click this little pin and then you'll see that the table of contents disappears when my mouse goes off of it. You'll see that.

You'll see once we get to the fit screen how unpinning this can be particularly helpful in those screens when you're looking at the graphs. For now, I'm just going to keep it pinned so you can see which screens I'm going through.

Okay, so you have your hearing aids connected to the adapter if you need to connect a new programmer to your software. If you maybe you haven't had a wired programmer connected in a while because you're using wireless products most of the time, then what you can do is you can go click the settings wheel in the top right corner here, and then you'll click on programming device.

You'll click detect. And this will detect any available programmers. Your wired programmer would come up here, and then you can just click on it, click select, and say, okay.

The last thing that I want to point out in this screen are the instruction videos. If you're not familiar with our software, there's a wealth of information here. This is where I just, I got that video that I played a minute ago showing how to connect the IIC and CIC using the adapter. So you'll just click on a category and see the videos available. So if you later on are trying to remember how to connect the IIC or CIC and you want to watch a video, you can just come down here, click on iiccic, and you have four different videos to choose from.

Programming adapter will show you the video we just saw. There's also a really good video about how to take a good ear impression for IICs and CICs, as well as how to change the battery drawer and how to change the tcap, which is the microphone cover on the IIC and cic.

Okay, so once you've connected to the devices, you will land on the prepare screen.

And here we can see the fitting levels and the options that are available for oticon own si, IIC and cic. Like I said, we're going to start by looking at the IIC. So I have own SI1IIC selected on both sides. And here we can see the fitting levels that are available. So the IIC is available in fitting levels 75 and 90.

Since the IIC prioritizes size and discreteness over everything else, it does not have a push button or near field magnetic induction. You'll see that those are grayed out here. When we look at the CIC in a little bit, you'll see how this screen differs when those options are enabled. But for the sake of the iic, there's no push button and no nfmi. NFMI is what gives us binaural coordination and tinnitus sound support between the instruments.

Okay, next we have personalization. So we have two options for personalization. We have the classic personalization questionnaire and the audible contrast threshold test. By completing personalization, you're setting a number of different signal processing algorithms within the hearing aids based on the patient's preferences. The very first step of completing personalization that you're going to want to do is to start at the top and fill out the client data.

You'll choose the hearing aid experience level, which is none, short term part time or long term. In general, short term part time would be someone who has had, who has been wearing the hearing aids less than six months or wears them inconsistently. And choosing the experience level here is actually setting your adaptation level on the FIT screen. So if you, if you select none, then on the FIT screen, your adaptation level will start at step one. Short term or part time will start the adaptation level at 2, and long term will start the adaptation level at step three, which is your target gain.

Come over here to age. If you entered the birth date into Noah, the software will pull that information over to set the age range for you. And then if you're not familiar with what language and gender is used for, that would apply to the NAL fitting formulas which use those two pieces of information.

Okay. Looking at the audible contrast threshold, if you have this test in your office and you're doing it, it can automatically bring in your act value or you can enter the value. So I'm going to say edit value and here I just put seven in as an example. So you once your value is in here and you hit save, it will give you your severity level and then you can edit it if you need to. Once you hit save and go to a different screen, your settings will be re prescribed based on this value.

Another way to complete the personalization process is by playing sound samples for your patient to gather information on how they perceive sound. So personalization is done unaided and it can be completed with patients who have up to a moderately severe hearing loss. Again, the first thing you're going to want to do is make sure that you filled in this information at the top because the sound samples down here are going to change and based on the experience level, then you'll play the first sound sample to help you set your volume at a comfortable level for your patient. And once you have that set, then you'll come down and play the sound samples and record your patient's answers for the questions. Where there are two sound samples to choose from, I recommend just playing them and asking the patient which one they prefer instead of reading the question to the patient.

And for more information about completing personalization and details on this entire topic, you can check out our course on audiology Online titled Genie 2 Navigating Oticon's Fitting Software.

Okay, in the acoustics menu you will select the vent size of your devices. If you're not sure what the vent size is, this information can be found on the invoice that you receive with the instruments. You can also contact us and we can look in our system and tell you what the what vent size the hearing aids were made with.

Next we will move along to the Fit menu. Here's an area where you may choose to unpin your table of contents to more easily see the graphs. Especially if you're working like on a small laptop, it can be hard to see these numbers.

So you can always do that. If you prefer, I'll keep it pinned so you can see what screen I'm on here.

Okay, so in this fine tuning section we have gain controls, sound controls and sudden sound stabilizer gain controls you're probably familiar with. This is where you can adjust your adaptation level and gain adaptation level. One is 80% of target gain, two is 90% of target gain, and three is 100%. If you want to see your compression ratios, you can see them by clicking the CR over here. And then when you switch back to mpo, the compression ratios will disappear and you'll be able to see your MPO Sound controls.

Sound controls is useful for making quick adjustments. So brightness perception is a quick increase or decrease to the mid to high frequencies to help specifically with clarity.

And then soft sound perception is your threshold knee point for soft sounds. So by moving it toward comfort, you're increasing your threshold knee point, and by moving it toward detail, you're decreasing your threshold knee point.

Sudden Sound Stabilizer is a really neat tool that handles sudden sounds that are loud or soft. So this is where you would manage environmental sounds such as door slamming, a dog barking, or even soft sudden sounds like typing on a keyboard or a clock ticking. So if a patient is annoyed by these types of sounds, chances are they're going to turn down their hearing aids and then you're sacrificing soft gain. So instead we'd recommend using the Sudden Sound Stabilizer because it will make the sudden sounds less annoy, impacting how well the patient is hearing speech. When we look at the different options we have here, the default setting is going to be medium for everyone.

The lower settings are good for patients who are not sensitive to sound and prefer sounds to be like, crisp and natural. The higher settings would be good for new users who haven't yet acclimated to

hearing aids or who like a little more comfort in all sound scenarios. And then the very highest settings are recommended as needed for special populations with a high degree of sound sensitivity, there won't be any negative impact to speech regardless of the setting that you choose. So you can customize this really based on your patient's sound quality preferences without worrying that it will affect speech audibility.

I'd like to take a second here to point out something to you that is very helpful if you're looking for detailed information about anything that you're seeing in any screen within Genie 2. If you click this question mark in the bottom left corner, you'll see Open help file and clicking on this opens a web page. And you'll see here that it gives you full details about everything that you're seeing on the screen. And this will change based on the screen that you're in within Genie 2. So if you ever just want to get more information about anything that you're seeing and suggestions maybe on how you should make adjustments, this is a great tool to use to get all the details.

Okay, let's move on to Feedback Analyzer. Unlike other manufacturers, our feedback management system is on regardless of whether or not you run the feedback analyzer test. So if you like to run it on every patient, that's totally fine, but the software isn't going to require that you run it. And actually the software will tell you when you should run it. So if the software detects unstable gain in the hearing aids while they're on the patient, that may lead to feedback in the real world.

You'll see an icon pop up next to the pictures up here in the corners. Next to this the pictures of the hearing aids, you'll see a little icon pop up that says risk of unstable gain. And it will give you some suggestions on how to improve this, which include occluding the fit more and or running the feedback analyzer.

Okay, now for the more sound intelligence screen. This screen can be thought of as your help and noise screen. So this is where you personalize the help and noise support to your patient's needs. Now,

if you completed the personalization step that we went over in the beginning using the the sound samples in the questionnaire or the ACT test, then the features on the screen are going to be set based on those answers. So first we see the environment classifier.

This is the primary control for more sound intelligence. It allows you to set the range of conditions over which the system will be using directional activity and noise removal to assist the patient. Every patient has different environments they find themselves in most often and the level of difficulty they experience also varies. If you hover your mouse over these boxes, you're going to see examples of different environments ranging in complexity.

These arrows will move the boxes. The left side is where you're going to put environments that are easy for your patient to communicate in. And the right side is where you're going to put the situations that get difficult for them. But let's talk about this for a minute. So the prescribed settings are based on extensive user experience, telling us which settings should work well for the typical patient with hearing loss.

Again, if you implemented the personalization process, those settings may change. Essentially all patients with sensorineural hearing loss will report trouble and noise. That level of difficulty is already considered when the prescribed settings are determined in the software. So for this reason we strongly suggest using the prescribed settings, especially for the first time user. Now, after the patient has had some significant listening experience, then they will be in a better position to provide input on how to adjust the fitting if necessary.

So if at their follow up appointment you feel that adjustments need to be made to, you can use this screen to help open up A conversation with the patient to identify situations that they find most challenging, ranging from very simple to very complex. And you can move these boxes accordingly. So you can hover over the box, you can share your screen with the patient, have them sitting next to you,

and you can hover over these boxes and look at the environments together and make sure that you have them in the correct easy versus difficult category. Now onto neural noise suppression. These controls let you adjust the maximum amount of noise reduction that will be applied in the environments that you categorized above.

So you have neural noise suppression, easy for very simple and simple in this case. And neural noise suppression difficult with 10 decibels of noise reduction to be applied to moderate complex and very complex situations.

Okay, let's move down to sound configuration.

So sound configuration contains a feature that may be good to discuss at a follow up visit. It's called sound enhancer and it's a feature that applies to complex situations that have both speech and noise. It can be used to enhance speech detail in difficult environments. Most patients are going to like it set to balanced, but you may change it on a follow up visit if they're needing more gain in the speech frequencies when they're in noisy environments. On the other hand, if they're easily overwhelmed in noisy environments, you could move it to comfort.

And if you're ever not sure what feature you're looking at or what exactly you're doing, whenever you see one of these little eyes in the Oticon software, you can click on it and here you'll get a description of what's happening as well as the very specific questions that you can ask your patient.

Now, if you've been fitting intense Oticon intent, you might notice that this sound configuration portion of the screen looks a little bit different than what you're used to seeing with intense. There's no virtual outer ear over here on the left side. So let's talk about that for a second. Virtual outer ear is a feature that is used in the Intent hearing aid to make up for the reduction of localization and directional cues that occur in hearing that have two microphones and sit behind the pinna like the intent. Now, with own

si, there's a reduced need for virtual outer ear because we can take advantage of some of the natural pinna effect that we get when using an IIC or CIC product.

On that topic, another feature that's not necessary with ONSI is the wind and handling stabilizer. So you won't see that listed in the automatic screen down here like you would with Oticon Intent Again, this is because with an IIC and cic, it's different. The pinna and the ear canal help to shield the single microphone from wind and handling noise. But with receiver in the ear styles, because the two microphones are placed outside of the ear canal, they're subjected to more wind and handling noise. So with minirite, our receiver in the ear product, the wind and handling stabilizer is needed to clean up the signal.

I wanted to mention these differences because I want to emphasize the concept of the audiology in OTICON ONSI being tailored to a single microphone. For single microphone custom solutions, we have a Deep Neural Network, or dnn, that's always on. And that's really important because without the benefits of dual microphone processing, the deep neural network is really what drives the improved speech clarity and noise suppression when the listening gets more challenging. And we're on our second generation of deep neural network now in the OTICON onsi.

Let's go to the Program Manager screen. The options available in the Program Manager screen will vary based on the style of own SI that you're working with. So the IIC doesn't have a push button and it doesn't support multiple programs. Therefore, you're not given the option to add additional programs. If you're wanting to change the fitting rationale, you can do that by clicking here, but we typically recommend using VAC Plus.

The Adaptation Manager allows you to set the devices so that the gain will automatically increase over time, and this can be used to help the patient just, you know, gradually adjust the target gain. You can adjust the end step and the duration of adaptation in this screen.

The last thing I'd like to mention in the fit category is going to be the Fitting assistant. If you need help on the spot with a patient complaint and you're not sure what adjustment to make, just check this fitting assistant out. This is a favorite feature of many of our providers. It allows you to select the complaint being made by the patient and then gives you recommendations on adjustments to make.

Okay, now we'll take a look at our finished section. Here we have a summary of the instruments, where you will see the serial number and the firmware version, as well as the estimated battery life. And since the IIC does not have a push button, we will not need to set any controls.

On the audible indicator screen, you can choose whether you want the patient to hear beeps or speech for the low battery indicators, and you can change between beeps and speech by clicking the speech bubble or the music note.

You can also adjust the frequency and volume levels of the indicators by clicking on this audible settings box.

Okay, so at this point, you're all set to save and exit the software by clicking Save and Exit in the top right corner. But rather than doing that, I'm going to go back to the Prepare screen and quickly show you how things will look different if you're fitting a CIC instrument, we're going to switch this to cic.

With the cic, you'll see that you still have the same fitting level options to choose from when placing your order 75 and 90. And you now have the option to add a push button and nfmi. Again, NFMI is near field magnetic induction, and it allows for binaural coordination of the instruments as well as tinnitus sound support. You'll follow through with the same steps we discussed before, Personalization acoustics, and then you'll move on to your Fit screen, where you will now, in the Program Manager screen, have the option to add programs. So let's say you wanted to add a My Music program, which is

really nice because it can be used not just with live music, but it can also be used with streamed music.

So we'll add the My Music program, Click Save Program and you're all set.

Now let's jump to the finish screen so you can see how the control options differ. With a cic, you now have a button screen where you can enable or disable program volume and mute functions. You can also adjust the volume control range and the step size if needed.

One last thing I'd like to mention, in case you're not aware, is that we have a generate report feature that has moved to the top right corner in the printer icon.

Oops. There we go.

This will generate a hearing instrument quick guide that's great to print out for your patients so they can get instructions on their hearing aids right away. We have a large number of languages to choose from, and we also have this really nice communication strategies packet that you can print out. It just talks about adjusting to hearing aids hearing with your brain, and it also has communication tips for family and friends. It's really nice.

And then when you're done again, you'll just click save and exit.

So there we go. I hope this course gave you the information that you need to feel empowered to do a first fit with OTICON owned devices. If you have any additional questions, please reach out to your OTICON regional audiologist or your account manager. And thank you so much for your time today.