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Course Information

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- As healthcare is rapidly evolving, new findings may change the validity of the information presented in this course. Providers should always consult the latest research and guidelines from professional associations.
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- Healthcare providers should apply cultural competence and sensitivity to ensure effective and respectful care based on their patients' diverse needs.
- Providers should always evaluate the limitations of diagnostic and screening tools, considering their potential for false results as well as any ethical implications.
- It is the responsibility of course participants to critically evaluate the evidence from multiple sources to guide professional practice.

New Possibilities with Roger

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Learning Objectives

- After this course, participants will be able to:
 - List new Roger portfolio
 - Describe the benefits of using Roger
 - List the microphone functions and use cases

Roger Description and Portfolio

What is Roger?

Roger is a wireless microphone system that bridges the gap between a speaker and a listener, overcoming the two fundamental hearing challenges of distance and background noise. The acronym stands for: Received Order Given, Expect Results. Roger consists of two components: a microphone (transmitter) worn or placed near the speaker, and a receiver worn on or connected to the hearing device. Together, they deliver the speaker's voice directly into the listener's hearing aids or cochlear implant processors.

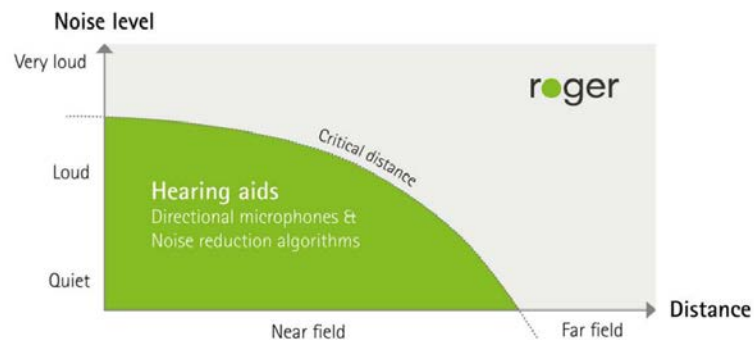
Roger is adaptive, automatic, universally compatible, and built on decades of wireless microphone technology. As background noise increases, Roger intelligently increases the gain of the transmitted signal — the louder the environment, the louder Roger gets.

The Fundamental Challenge

31% of hearing aid wearers report they continue to have challenges hearing in background noise. Conversations happen everywhere — in restaurants, classrooms, cars, group meetings, and at home — and the environments where communication matters most are often the noisiest.

Speech understanding also decreases significantly with distance. In a typical classroom setting, a student seated 6 ft (1.8 m) from the teacher understands approximately 89% of speech — but a student seated 24 ft (7.3 m) away may understand only 36% of speech.

Hearing aids with directional microphones and noise reduction algorithms perform well in near-field, quieter environments. But beyond a critical distance — especially in high noise — hearing aids alone cannot maintain speech intelligibility. This is where Roger extends the system.



Q1

Quiz Hint

- What sets Roger performance apart from other remote microphone systems?
 - Adaptive Gain — as background noise gets louder, the Roger signal automatically gets louder too
 - This is unique to Roger and is not a feature of standard FM systems

Roger Product Portfolio

The Roger portfolio is organized into two use environments: Home and Work, and Education. Within each, there are dedicated Roger microphones (transmitters) and a range of Roger receivers.



Home and Work microphones include: Roger On, Roger Table Mic, and Roger Select. Education microphones include: Roger Touchscreen Mic, Roger Pass-around Mic, and Roger Multimedia Hub.

Receivers include RogerDirect (built in to compatible hearing aids), Roger NeckLoop, Roger Focus II, Roger X, and DigiMaster (soundfield system for classrooms).

Q2**Quiz Hint**

- Which modes does the Roger On microphone include?
 - Table Mode, Pointing Mode, and Headset Mode — all of the above
 - The Roger On is the only microphone in the portfolio that supports all six modes including Headset mode and Wide pointing mode

Flexibility

Microphone Modes

Roger microphones offer multiple operating modes, allowing the user to adapt the microphone pickup pattern and behavior to the listening situation. The primary modes are:

- Table Mode (horizontal orientation): Omnidirectional pickup looping you into a group conversation — ideal for restaurants, game night, and meetings.
- Presenter Mode (vertical orientation): Focused on one speaker in front of the microphone — ideal for lectures, tours, and date night.
- Pointing Mode (diagonal orientation): User aims the microphone at the desired speaker — ideal for happy hour, shopping, and medical appointments.
- NEW Wide Pointing Mode: Activated via the myRogerMic app, expands the pickup area to cover a wider listening field — ideal for panel discussions, meetings, and group conversation.
- Audio Streaming Mode: Connects via docking station or 3.5mm audio jack for direct audio input — ideal for movies, music, and television.
- Headset Mode: Connects via USB to a computer to support two-way communication — ideal for online meetings, Zoom, and Skype.

Microphone Modes by Model

Not all modes are available on every microphone. The table below shows which modes are supported by each Roger microphone in the portfolio.

Microphone modes to meet individual needs

	Roger On	Roger TableMic	Roger Select	Roger Touchscreen Mic	Roger Multimedia Hub
Table mode	•	•	•	•	
Presenter mode	•		•	•	
Pointing mode	•			(can activate)	
Wide pointing mode	•				
Audio streaming mode	•	•	•	•	•
Headset mode	•				

Flexible Mode Activation

Modes on the Roger On can be activated in three ways: automatically via the built-in accelerometer (orientation-driven), manually via the push button (locking), or through the myRogerMic app. The myRogerMic app also provides a bonus beamforming selection option within Table mode.

NEW myRogerMic App Updates

The myRogerMic app has been updated with improved functionality and ease of use. Key updates include: a new pop-up notification when a user with a pair of RogerDirect hearing aids opens the app, and the gearwheel icon is now on the main screen for easy access to the settings section.

Multi-Talker Networks

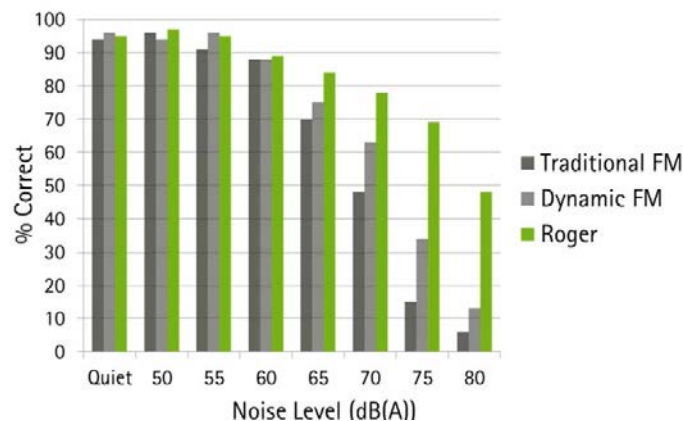
Roger microphones can be networked together in Multi-Talker configurations, allowing multiple microphones to transmit simultaneously to the listener's receivers. This is ideal for group discussions, classrooms, and meetings where speakers are distributed throughout the room.

The Home and Work family supports multi-talker networking with Roger Table Mic, Roger Select, and Roger On. The Education family supports multi-talker networking with Roger Touchscreen Mic, Roger Pass-around Mic, and Roger Multimedia Hub.

Performance

Roger Outperforms FM Systems

A field study by Mulder (2013) compared speech recognition accuracy across noise levels for Traditional FM, Dynamic FM, and Roger. Roger maintained substantially higher speech recognition scores at all noise levels, with the advantage increasing dramatically above 65 dB(A).



Understanding 10 Times Better Than Normal Hearing

Research by Thibodeau (2014) showed that hearing aid users with Roger technology can achieve speech recognition scores equivalent to — or exceeding — those of people with normal hearing in noise. At 75 dB(A) noise, hearing aid users with Roger achieved 69% correct compared to just 7% for people with normal hearing — a difference of 62 percentage points, representing nearly 10 times better speech recognition.

Improved Speech Understanding in Group Conversations

A 2020 study by Thibodeau showed a 61% improvement in speech understanding in a group conversation when using Roger with remote wireless microphones compared to hearing aids alone. This demonstrates that Roger's benefit extends beyond one-on-one listening to complex multi-talker environments.

Roger Benefits Kids

Research demonstrates significant benefits for children using Roger in educational settings. Key findings include: at least 32% better speech understanding compared to hearing aids alone; 5,300 more words per day; 12% more child-directed speech; improved alertness and attentiveness; and better receptive discourse skills. These outcomes indicate significantly better access to both the quantity and quality of language.

Automatic Adaptive Gain

One of Roger's defining performance features is automatic adaptive gain. Roger continuously monitors ambient noise and increases its transmitted signal level as noise rises — ensuring that the speech signal always reaches the listener above the noise floor. The hearing aid signal level remains flat, while the Roger signal grows proportionally with noise level.



In Standard adaptive mode, Roger's gain increases steadily as noise increases from 56 dB to 76 dB and beyond. In Dual adaptive mode, the hearing aid microphone is simultaneously reduced as Roger gain increases, providing maximum separation between the speech signal and background noise. Clinicians can select between Standard and Dual adaptive behavior in Target fitting software within the RogerDirect program options.

NEW SmartMute

SmartMute is a new performance feature for Roger On 3. When Roger is muted, the hearing devices automatically leave the RogerDirect + mic program and switch to AutoSense OS. This allows the user to maintain the benefits of Phonak SmartSpeech Technology when Roger is not actively in use, ensuring a seamless listening experience throughout the day.

NEW Scratch-Resistant Display

The Roger On 3 now includes a scratch-resistant display offering better resistance to light scratches when the device is not used with a case. Screen durability has been tested to industry standards (DIN 68861).

Q3

Quiz Hint

- Which improvement to Roger On is backwards compatible to prior versions via a firmware update?

- Stereo wide pointing mode is available as a backwards compatible firmware upgrade
- The scratch-resistant display and SmartMute are hardware features of the Roger On 3 and are not available via firmware update on older models

Q4**Quiz Hint**

- Roger On provides an improvement in speech understanding in group conversations in loud noise of up to what percent compared to hearing aids alone?
 - 61% improvement in speech understanding in a group conversation (Thibodeau, 2020)
 - This was demonstrated using remote wireless microphones in group settings

Q5**Quiz Hint**

- What improvements to Roger On 3 are included?
 - All of the above: scratch-resistant display, SmartMute, and unlimited receivers
 - Stereo wide pointing mode is also new but is available via firmware update to prior Roger On versions

Compatibility

What Roger Receiver Do You Need?

There are three categories of Roger receivers: RogerDirect (built-in to compatible hearing aids), Universal receivers (compatible with any hearing aid brand), and Integrated receivers (attach to specific hearing aid models).

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What Roger receiver do you need?

RogerDirect	Universal receivers	Integrated receivers
 RogerDirect installed	 Roger NeckLoop 	 Roger 18  Roger 19  Roger 21 

RogerDirect

RogerDirect is the built-in Roger receiver technology embedded directly into compatible Phonak, Advanced Bionics, and select other hearing aids. With RogerDirect, no external receiver hardware needs to be attached. RogerDirect enables direct streaming to all Marvel, Paradise, and Lumity hearing aids, as well as Advanced Bionics Naida and Sky CI M cochlear implants. RogerDirect receivers are up to 42% smaller than previous hardware receivers and use on average 27% less battery power.

Unlimited Receivers — A Game Changer

Previously, Roger microphones were limited to two receivers for iN-type microphones, and receivers required a separate installer pad and Roger X hardware. With the latest Roger On 3 and Touchscreen Mic 3, hearing aids with RogerDirect can receive unlimited digital receivers. Installation is simpler and faster, with no limitation on the number of receivers, no need for uninstallation when transferring to a new user, and no extra hardware required.

Installing receivers from the Roger On 3 requires simultaneously holding down the center and connect buttons. From the Touchscreen Mic 3, the process is: swipe right, select RogerDirect, press Play, and the installation is complete.

Universal Receivers

Universal receivers allow any hearing aid wearer — regardless of brand — to access the Roger portfolio. The Roger NeckLoop is a T-coil-based receiver that works with any telecoil-equipped hearing device and can also be used with speech-to-text applications. The Roger Focus II improves speech intelligibility in distance and noise and is compatible with all Roger microphones, with lockable volume control and tamperproof door options. The Roger X is a plug-in receiver compatible with hearing aids that have a boot or shoe connection.

Demonstrating Roger

Demonstrating Roger in the clinic is one of the most effective ways to help patients understand its benefit. The recommended approach is a 3-minute demonstration using three scenarios tied to patient lifestyle:

- **Table Mode:** Ask the patient how often they eat out at restaurants, attend meetings, or play cards. Demonstrate the omnidirectional pickup in a group setting.
- **Presenter Mode:** Ask how often the patient attends presentations or drives with a passenger. Demonstrate the forward-focused mode.
- **Pointing Mode:** Ask how often the patient would like to hear a salesperson, bank teller, or waiter better. Demonstrate directional pointing at a specific speaker.

Who Is Using Roger?

60% of patients fitted with Roger today have a mild to moderate hearing loss. Roger is not exclusively a technology for severe or profound hearing loss — the evidence for benefit in noise and at distance applies across all degrees of hearing loss where communication difficulty is present.

Further Resources

Reasonable Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires reasonable accommodations as they relate to three aspects of employment: ensuring equal opportunity in the application process; enabling a qualified individual with a disability to perform the essential functions of a job; and making it possible for an employee with a disability to enjoy equal benefits and privileges of employment.

The five steps to Reasonable Accommodation with Roger are: (1) determine which Roger solution is best for your patient using the Roger Easy Guide; (2) trial the prescribed Roger set-up at work; (3) download a templated accommodation request letter for the patient to submit to their HR or line manager; (4) set an appointment to fit the prescribed Roger solution after accommodation is agreed upon; and (5) provide a copy of the invoice or receipt to the employer for reimbursement.

Resources are available at: us.morethanahearingaid.com/ada

Rogerpedia and Rogerpedia Pediatric

Rogerpedia is a comprehensive resource for audiologists and hearing care professionals available at phonak.com/en-us/hearing-devices/microphones. It covers how to learn about Roger technology, determine candidacy, review use cases for all microphones, learn how to demo Roger to patients and families, and ensure compatibility. A pediatric version of Rogerpedia is also available for clinicians working with children and teens.

Roger Configurator

The Roger Configurator is an online tool that guides clinicians through selecting compatible Roger products for any patient's hearing device. Step 1: choose a hearing device. Step 2: choose from a list of compatible microphones. Step 3: choose from a list of compatible receivers. The Configurator is available at phonak.com.

Key Takeaways

- Roger is an adaptive, automatic wireless microphone system that improves speech understanding in noise and at distance for hearing aid and cochlear implant users.
- The Roger portfolio includes microphones for home and work (Roger On, Table Mic, Select) and education (Touchscreen Mic, Pass-around Mic, Multimedia Hub).
- Roger On supports all six microphone modes including the new Wide Pointing mode, SmartMute, improved scratch-resistant display, unlimited receivers, and myRogerMic app updates.
- Research demonstrates Roger users can understand speech nearly 10 times better than people with normal hearing in high noise, and 61% better in group conversations compared to hearing aids alone.
- 60% of current Roger users have mild to moderate hearing loss — Roger is appropriate across the full spectrum of hearing loss.
- Roger is compatible with almost any hearing aid and cochlear implant, and the Roger Configurator helps identify the right combination of microphone and receiver for each patient.

Notes

