

How ReSound Sensia Gets It Right for Your Patients

Tammara Stender, Au.D. — Director, Communications and External Relations,
GN Hearing

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Key Takeaways

Key Takeaway	Clinical Implication
Hearing in background noise remains the #1 challenge for hearing aid users (90% struggle in noisy backgrounds; 80% are challenged when 2+ people talk, per MarkeTrak 25, 2025).	Set realistic expectations with patients and highlight technologies purpose-built for noise, not just amplification.
Environmental classification accuracy varies widely across manufacturers — ReSound reaches 91% accuracy versus a low of 38% among competitors (Groth & Cui, 2024).	Misclassifying an environment (e.g., speech-in-noise mistaken for music) can cause the wrong features to activate, working against the patient rather than for them.
Accurate classification alone is not enough: AcoustIQ activated the correct feature combination 100% of the time across 8 real-world sound scenes, versus 47–53% for competitor brands (Groth & Cui, 2026).	When counseling patients on automatic features, confirm the technology both senses the environment and engages the right response — not just one or the other.
Intelligent All-Around unites AcoustIQ, 4-mic beamforming, and DNN denoising to automatically support speech understanding without manual adjustment.	Patients who want a “set it and forget it” experience are well suited to Sensia’s automatic All-Around program.
The combination of 4-mic beamforming and DNN denoising helps users stay focused on their intended talker even when a distractor becomes louder (80% of users experienced better audibility of the intended speaker).	This directly addresses a common patient complaint: hearing aids amplifying the wrong (loudest) voice in a noisy room.
The ReSound Sensia family spans custom styles (CIC, ITC, ITE) and RIE styles (microRIE, standard RIE), with CROS and dedicated bimodal options, across technology levels 9, 7, 5, and 4.	Base product and technology-level recommendations on the patient’s lifestyle, typical listening environments, and budget.

Learner Outcomes

- After this course, participants will be able to discuss the enhancements in feature activation afforded by AcoustIQ for ReSound Sensia, as well as how Intelligent All-Around provides an AI-powered automatic listening experience designed to support users' needs in any environment.
- After this course, participants will be able to identify the evidence supporting AcoustIQ and Intelligent All-Around.
- After this course, participants will be able to discuss the differences in technology levels in the ReSound Sensia family.

The Challenge: Hearing in Noise

Hearing in background noise remains the number one challenge reported by hearing aid users. Per MarkeTrak 25 (2025), 90% of users struggle with conversations in a noisy background, and 80% are challenged when two or more people are talking at once.

Research into what makes a good real-world hearing experience identified four consistent user expectations:

- Hear exactly what you want — amplifying the wrong sounds (clinking plates, background music) instead of the desired conversation is a common frustration.
- Speech clarity above all — users' primary goal is to hear and understand speech without straining.
- Noise reduced, not eliminated — radically cutting out all background noise feels unnatural and isolating; users still want to feel connected to their surroundings.
- No effort, no adjustment — the goal is a hearing aid a user can forget they are wearing, with no manual intervention required.

ReSound's directional-technology philosophy (Natural Directionality, later Binaural Directionality, and the underlying BASS strategy) has evolved across the product line from ReSound Azure through ReSound Vivia, progressively adding band-split directionality, ear-to-ear communication, spatial sense, enhanced 360° hearing, 4-mic beamforming (up to an 8.6 dB SNR benefit), and — in ReSound Vivia — deep neural network (DNN) denoising on a separate chip to help with the cocktail-party effect.

In ReSound Vivia, DNN denoising required manually switching to a separate program, because DNN models are trained to separate prominent speech from background noise — if activated when there is no prominent speech, or when the loudest speech is not what the user wants to hear, the result can be artifacts, distortion, or amplification of the wrong talker. Hearing care professionals and users alike have asked for this benefit to activate automatically, without manual intervention.

Automating this fully requires three things: accurately classifying the environment, activating the right features for that environment, and empowering the user to decide what they want to hear rather than having the hearing aid decide for them.

From Automation to Natural Listening

ReSound's automation approach is built on how people naturally listen, using three listening modes: spatial awareness, better ear advantage, and speech clarity in noise. Regardless of which mode is active, the multiband approach preserves support for both spatial hearing and speech intelligibility — the balance simply shifts toward one or the other.

The right noise reduction approach also differs by situation — quiet, noise-only, or speech-in-noise; moderate versus loud environments — and ReSound applies two distinct technologies accordingly:

- Noise Tracker II (for everyday listening) — used in noise-only and moderate speech-in-noise situations; works with directionality to support natural listening and adapts to the environment, applying more reduction as noise increases. This keeps listening natural without over-processing.
- DNN Denoising (for the toughest listening moments) — activated in very loud, complex environments; focuses on the speaker in front rather than just the loudest voice, combined with 4-mic beamforming for precise focus. This helps users hear who they want to hear.

Together, these are designed to transition seamlessly as environments change, with no jarring shifts and no need for the user to think or manually adjust — while preserving power that lasts all day.

AcoustIQ™: Senses the Sound. Gets It Right.

AcoustIQ is described as the intelligent brain of ReSound's solutions, built on the Organic Hearing philosophy and powered by AI. It is a sound-sensing technology that precisely analyzes the environment in real time, second by second, and engages the right combination of directionality, noise reduction, and gain settings — activated exactly when and where the user needs them.

Delivering Classification Performance

Environmental classification accuracy varies across hearing aid manufacturers. In research comparing test-box results against human judgment across three environment types (quiet/speech only, speech in noise, and noise only), ReSound delivered 91% classification accuracy consistently identifying real-world listening environments (Groth, et al., 2023). The biggest challenge across the industry is distinguishing music from speech-in-noise — the least accurate competitor system tested was only 38% accurate.

Misclassifying an environment carries real consequences: a restaurant with background music might be misclassified as “music” rather than “speech in noise,” which can lead to a missed activation of noise reduction and directionality — leaving the hearing aid working against, rather than for, the patient.

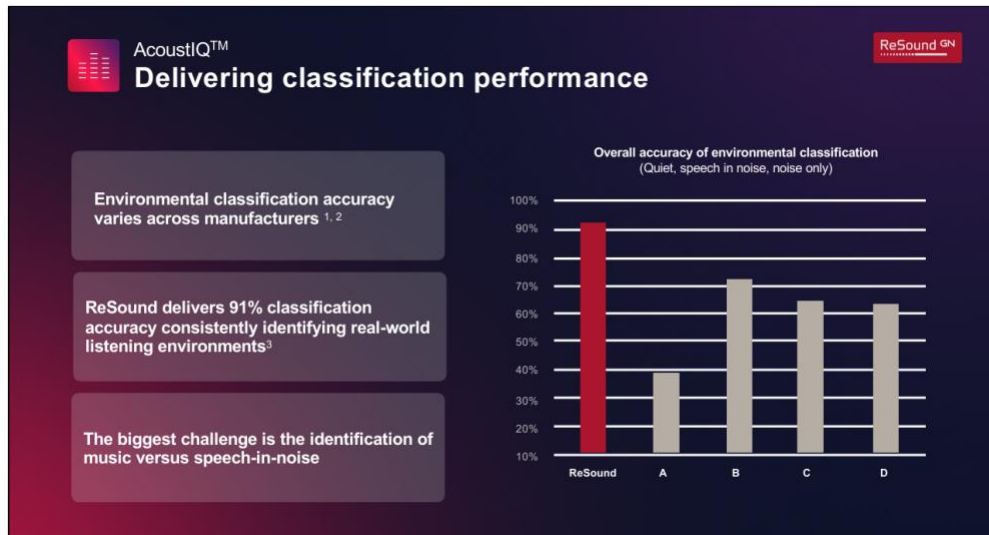


Figure 1. Overall accuracy of environmental classification, ReSound versus four competitor brands.

Accurate Classification Is Only Half the Job

A follow-up study (Groth & Cui, 2026) tested the hypothesis that accurate classification alone is not enough if it doesn't translate into the right feature activation. The study evaluated 6 premium hearing aid brands across 8 real-world sound scenes and 3 environment types, asking whether automatic programs correctly activate directionality in environments with speech and surrounding noise, reduce gain in noisy environments, and preserve prescribed gains in speech-only environments.

Q3

Quiz Hint: Per Groth and Cui (2026), AcoustiQ activated the correct combination of features across all 8 real-world sound scenes tested, for an overall feature engagement accuracy of 100% — while the five competitor brands tested ranged from 47% to 53% accuracy.

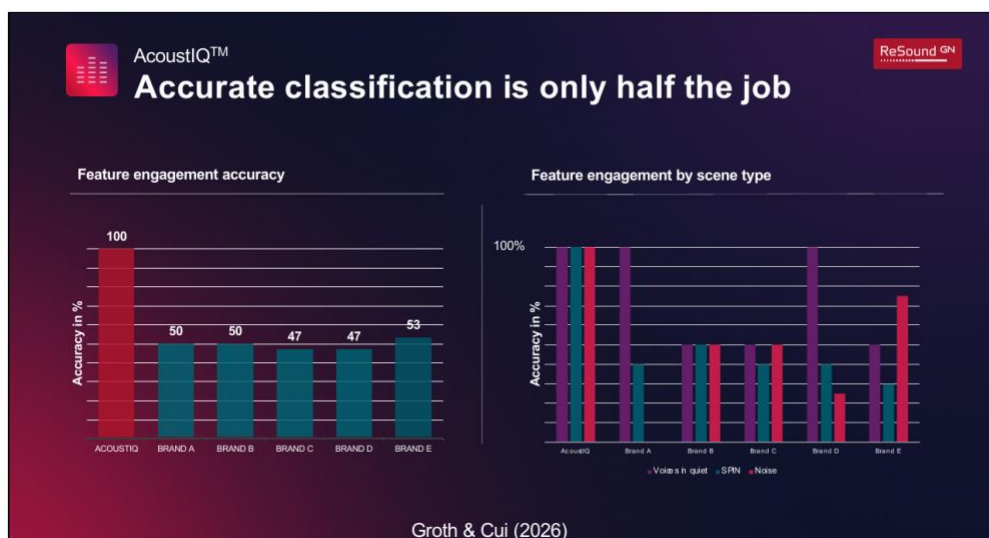


Figure 2. Feature engagement accuracy overall and by listening scene type, AcoustiQ versus five competitor brands.

Measured across all 8 sound scenes, AcoustIQ accurately activated the correct combination of features 100% of the time, while competitor automatic adjustments showed inconsistent feature-activation patterns — some brands performed well in speech-only environments, others in noise-only environments, but all competitors struggled in more complex speech-in-noise environments.

From Classification to Accurate Activation

Taken together, AcoustIQ is described as the most accurate real-time sound sensing technology tested: 91% environmental classification accuracy (Groth & Cui, 2024), 100% overall accuracy of feature engagement — engaging and activating the optimal feature combination (Groth & Cui, 2026) — and 88% greater accuracy in real-time classification and feature engagement than the closest premium brand (Groth & Cui, 2026).

Intelligent All-Around: Working as One, Automatically

Intelligent All-Around is described as a trio of breakthrough technologies working together, seamlessly integrated in one AI platform: AcoustIQ, 4-mic beamforming, and DNN denoising — constantly sensing, adapting, and optimizing without the user lifting a finger.

Q1

Quiz Hint: Intelligent All-Around is built from three breakthrough technologies working together: AcoustIQ (sound sensing and feature engagement), 4-mic beamforming, and DNN denoising.

Automatic DNN Denoising: Hearing Should Feel Effortless

In Speech Intelligibility mode, Intelligent All-Around automatically applies strong 4-mic beamforming directionality together with low-frequency omnidirectional processing and Intelligent Noise Tracker denoising. Low-frequency omni processing helps preserve consistent sound quality across program switches, so the user gets the benefit without noticing that anything changed. The goal is not simply to improve signal-to-noise ratio, but to reduce the subjective distraction of interfering talkers while preserving access to the talker the listener most wants to attend to.

A real-life example from the source material illustrates the stakes: a trial participant wearing a competitor brand's hearing aids with automatic denoising described arriving at a busy airport, where her hearing aids focused on a group of loud football players nearby rather than her granddaughter's voice directly in front of her — resulting in a highly distracting listening experience in exactly the kind of complex situation where she most needed help.

Hearing Aids That Take Away Control

Feedback gathered from hearing care professionals and hearing aid users highlights a recurring frustration with automatic DNN denoising that lacks a beamformer: it tends to make the loudest speech in the environment easier to hear, regardless of whether that is the speech the user actually wants to hear. One HCP described patients who can “hear everyone talking at the tables around me, but can't understand the people at my table” — a complaint reported more frequently with newer automatic-denoising technology. A hearing aid user similarly described a lecture where nearby chit-chat effectively “muted” the speaker they were trying to hear.

This underscores a guiding principle: the goal is to empower the hearing aid user to decide what they want to hear, rather than having the hearing aid decide for them.

Proven in Real-Life Situations

Two independent studies compared ReSound Sensia against a leading premium RIE with DNN denoising, both asking listeners to identify which talker was most audible:

- An internal study with 20 participants with mild-to-moderate bilateral hearing loss, using cocktail-party noise (multi-talker babble) with a target speaker at 0° and a distractor speaker at -90°, matched for voice-effort level (Jespersen & Rubachandran, 2026).
- A Hörzentrum Oldenburg study with 24 participants with moderate bilateral hearing loss, using two complex sound scenes with diffuse cafeteria noise from 16 loudspeakers and three talkers at different locations (Quilter, Heeren & Jespersen, 2026).

With equal-level distractors, the frontal talker was rated best audible significantly more often with Sensia than with the competitor ($p < 0.001$). With louder distractors, listening was harder for Sensia users in this more difficult condition, but they were still able to pick out the front talker roughly 30% of the time — with the competitor device, listeners essentially could not hear the front talker at all, since the competitor's cardioid directional response strongly enhances the loudest (side) talker instead.

Q4

Quiz Hint: Combining the 4-mic beamformer with DNN denoising supports the natural cognitive process of selecting and maintaining attention to a target talker — helping the listener stay with the person they intend to hear even when a nearby distractor becomes louder.

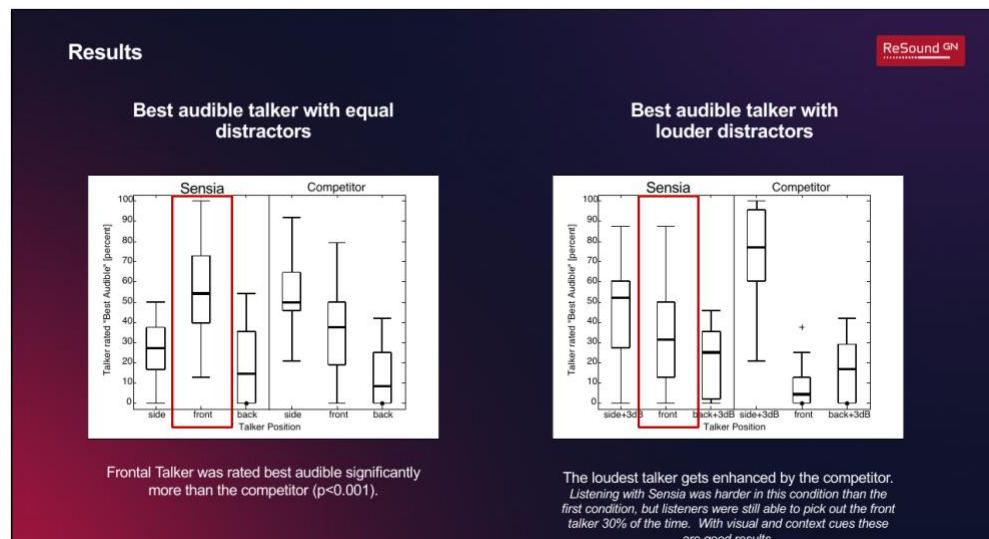


Figure 3. Best audible talker ratings by talker position, Sensia versus a competitor device, under equal and louder distractor conditions.

Clear Advantage — When It Matters Most

Compared to other DNN denoising solutions, ReSound Sensia is described as delivering the best audibility advantage: 80% of users experienced better audibility of the intended speaker (Quilter, Heeren & Jespersen, 2026; compared to another premium brand with DNN denoising, Jespersen & Rubachandran, 2026). Users perceived it as easier to hear the target speaker, less listening effort, and reduced distraction from competing voices.

Connectivity: Auracast™ and Accessories

ReSound Sensia supports a full range of wireless connectivity options built on Bluetooth® LE Audio and Auracast™:

- MultiConnect (2+1) — pair compatible ReSound devices with two smart devices simultaneously for uninterrupted streaming, such as taking a phone call while streaming music or a movie from another device (compatible with ReSound Sensia, ReSound Vivia, and ReSound Enzo IA rechargeable models).
- TV-Streamer+ — easily paired with OneTouch Pairing; AutoStreaming sends sound directly to the hearing aids as soon as the TV turns on; in public broadcast mode it becomes a Public Broadcast Transmitter, allowing an unlimited number of Auracast-enabled devices to connect for shared listening.
- Multi-Mic+ — lets conversation partners, presenters, or staff stream their voice for up to 82 feet, delivering a 9.9 dB SNR improvement compared to omni (Jespersen & Rubachandran, 2025); recognized with a 2025 CES Innovation Award for Accessibility and AgeTech.

Across the industry, more than 5 new Auracast-enabled venues reportedly launch every day globally (Bluetooth SIG, 2025), and Auracast is the preferred streaming method 87% of the time for users with and without hearing loss compared to telecoil (Jespersen, Hashem, Aranda de Toro & Fernandez, 2026). More than 2.8 million ears have been helped with Auracast-enabled hearing aids since 2023. Any Auracast stream can be accessed with a single tap using the ReSound Smart 3D™ app.

A New Family: Capturing the Power of AI in the Smallest Styles

The ReSound Sensia family spans custom styles (CIC, ITC, and rechargeable ITE) and RIE styles (microRIE and standard RIE), with CROS and dedicated bimodal models available in the microRIE style. The microRIE is described as the world's smallest AI rechargeable RIE — 6% smaller than the closest competitor (GN proprietary data on file, 2026).

The microRIE CROS Transmitter is compatible with all ReSound Sensia RIE models (not the Sensia Bimodal), offers 16 hours of battery life, premium/standard/desktop charger options, SureFit 3 LP/MP/HP receivers with domes or earmolds, TapControl, and no telecoil.

Through the Smart Hearing Alliance, ReSound Sensia Bimodal and ReSound Enzo IA Bimodal represent a more focused partnership between Cochlear and ReSound, enabling targeted technology development, a compatible Super Power BTE with bimodal control through the Nucleus Smart App, and easier product selection for hearing care professionals guiding patients through bimodal solution selection.

The line is offered in 10 premium colors (Sparkling Silver, Sand, Gold, Bronze, Warm Grey, Espresso, Graphite, Deep Black, Navy Blue, and Red), with an IP68 all-weatherproof rating and protective nanocoating inside and out.



Figure 5. ReSound SureFit 3 receiver options and their corresponding fitting ranges.

AllFit domes are designed to fit most ears, with coverage based on 16,000 real-ear impressions reaching 97% (GN proprietary data, 2025). Improvements compared to the legacy line include a new sleeve dome offering a custom-like fit optimized for M&RIE, up to +20 dB maximum stable gain versus legacy, enhanced low-frequency sound quality, improved bass response, additional wax protection with a new loop-tip design, and increased silicone thickness for improved durability, across 5 dome styles.

Battery performance is tested in real-life use with streaming and sound features active: up to 30 hours maximum on one charge, or 20 hours with 50% streaming, with up to 3 additional charges available from the premium charger (GN proprietary data on file, 2026).

Technology Levels

ReSound Sensia updates all technology levels within the family. AcoustIQ's sound-sensing and feature-engagement technology, along with the 4-mic beamforming strategy, is available across all technology levels in the ReSound Sensia family. DNN denoising is now available in ReSound Sensia microRIE levels 7 and 9 — more programs and tech levels than in prior generations.

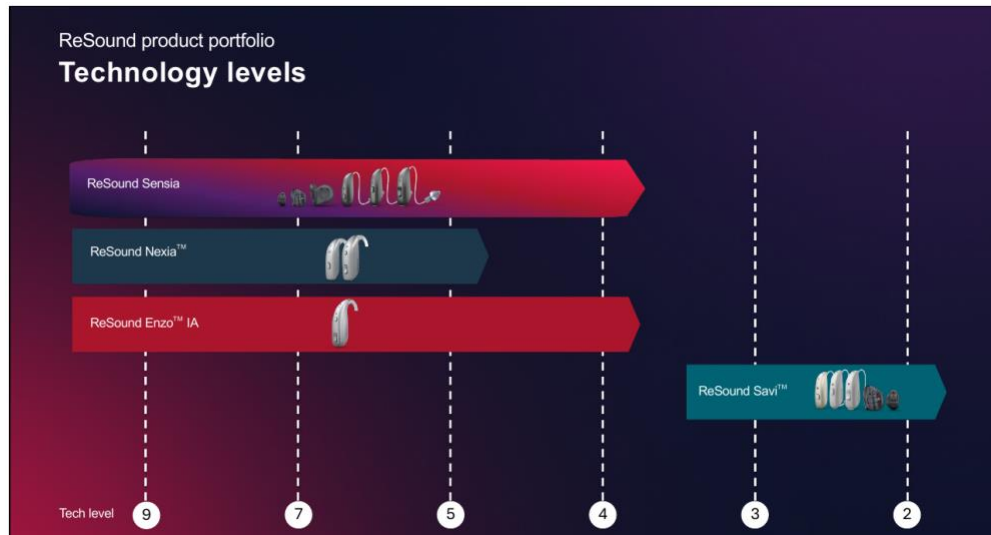


Figure 4. ReSound product portfolio positioned across technology levels.

In level 9, DNN denoising is applied automatically as part of Intelligent All-Around. In both levels 9 and 7, users can access DNN denoising and 4-mic beamforming at any time with a simple swipe to their Hear in Noise program in the ReSound Smart 3D app — letting each patient experience DNN denoising the way they prefer, whether fully automatic, on-demand, or both.

Q5

Quiz Hint: For DNN denoising specifically, Sensia level 9 provides automatic support in the primary program (P1) for the best speech-in-noise performance, while level 7 offers DNN denoising only through manual activation in the secondary program (P2).

How to Compare Tech Levels

Level 9 vs. 7: Sensia 9 provides automatic support (P1) for the best speech-in-noise performance, while Sensia 7 offers only manual support (P2) — with Sensia 9, the patient can stay in one program and get the best support to hear speech in noise.

Level 7 vs. 5: The technical difference is DNN denoising in P2 for level 7, which translates to better noise reduction with 7 than with 5.

Level 5 vs. 4: Level 5 offers better directional benefit than level 4 due to a narrower beam, translating to a better ability to focus on speech in noise.

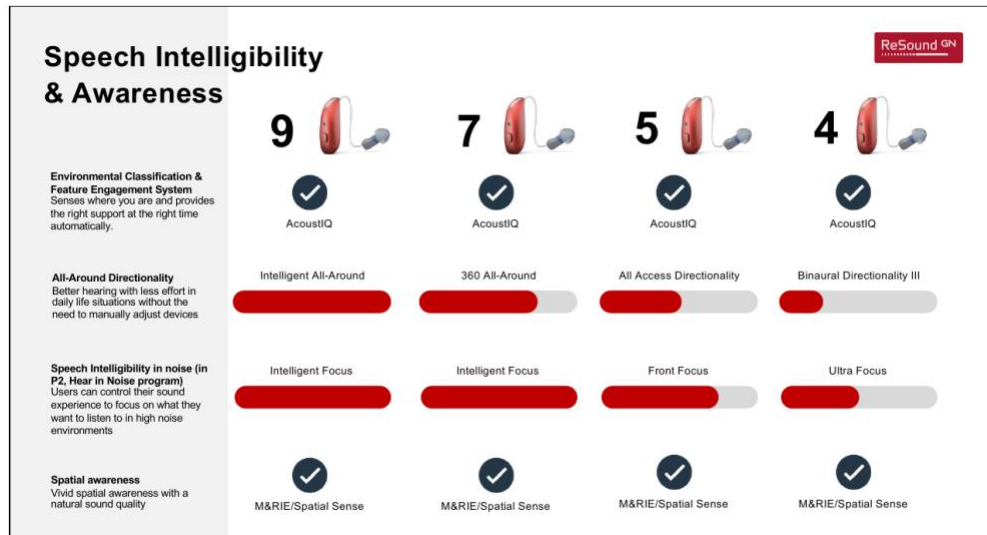


Figure 6. Speech intelligibility and awareness feature comparison across ReSound Sensia RIE technology levels 9 through 4.

Listening comfort features also scale by level for the RIE family: DNN noise reduction (Intelligent Noise Tracker) is available as moderate-to-strong (automatic and manual programs) at level 9, considerable (manual program only) at level 7, and is not available at levels 5 or 4. Noise Tracker II reduction is available at all four levels, ranging from per-environment reduction of about -10 dB at level 9 down to about -6 dB at level 4. Impulse noise reduction and wind noise reduction both range from mild-to-strong at levels 9 and 7, to mild-to-moderate at levels 5 and 4. For non-rechargeable ITC custom models, All-Around Directionality is instead replaced by Soft Switching in the All-Around program; in the Hear in Noise program, Autoscope is available at level 9, Multiscope at level 7, and Adaptive Directionality at levels 5 and 4. CIC models do not include directional microphones and offer omnidirectional processing only. Spatial Sense is not available on non-rechargeable ITC or CIC models.

Choosing the Right Technology Level

Selecting a technology level can be compared to packing luggage for a trip: every trip has must-have basics, but the right “extras” depend on where the patient is going and what they'll need along the way. Every ReSound Sensia technology level includes the same must-haves:

- Accurate classification and feature activation — AcoustIQ
- A compressor based on the way humans hear — WARP
- Support for speech in noise — 4-mic directionality

Higher levels add more to cover a wider range of listening situations:

- Greater comfort in noise in P2 — DNN denoising
- Better performance in noise — more advanced 4-mic directionality

The highest level adds the best performance and personalization:

- Automatic activation of the best speech-in-noise features
- Greatest app control of DNN denoising
- Strongest support in every listening situation

Conclusion

- ReSound Sensia is presented as a revolution in hearing in noise: a new AI platform that unites the most accurate sound-sensing technology (AcoustIQ), a 4-mic beamforming strategy, and the most efficient DNN-based denoising tested — automatically.
- It is captured in the smallest style: an extended family of premium hearing aids spanning RIE and custom styles to a leading CROS and bimodal solution, led by the world's smallest AI rechargeable RIE.
- It aims to reduce fitting complexity and free up time for patient care through an all-encompassing in-clinic ecosystem, including new NAL-NL3 support and FSW navigation.
- It connects with Auracast now, with ReSound positioned as delivering the only hearing aid portfolio supporting Auracast across styles and accessories.
- The overarching goal throughout is helping HCPs ensure patients get the technology they need and want.

Interactive Worksheet

Complete the fillable fields below as you review the course content. Click into any shaded box to type your response.

Learning Objectives

- Discuss the enhancements in feature activation afforded by AcoustIQ for ReSound Sensia, and how Intelligent All-Around provides an AI-powered automatic listening experience.
- Identify the evidence supporting AcoustIQ and Intelligent All-Around.
- Discuss the differences in technology levels in the ReSound Sensia family.

Module 1: AcoustIQ & Environmental Classification

Key Terms

Term	Definition
AcoustIQ	Click here to enter text.
Environmental Classification	Click here to enter text.
Feature Engagement	Click here to enter text.

Guided Notes

What is ReSound's overall environmental classification accuracy, per Groth, et al. (2023)?

Click here to enter text.

List the three research questions the Groth & Cui (2026) feature engagement study asked about automatic programs:

Click here to enter text.

Pause & Apply

If a patient reports hearing the loudest voice in a room instead of the person they are trying to talk to, then I will...

Click here to enter text.

Module 2: Product Family & Technology Levels

Key Terms

Term	Definition
microRIE	Click here to enter text.
Intelligent All-Around	Click here to enter text.
SureFit 3	Click here to enter text.

Guided Notes

Explain the main technical difference between Sensia level 9 and level 7 for DNN denoising:

Click here to enter text.

Which ReSound Sensia styles are available, and which style(s) support CROS and Bimodal options?

Click here to enter text.

Knowledge Check

The combination of 4-mic beamforming and DNN denoising primarily improves:

- ☐ Battery life
- ☐ Audibility of the intended speaker in noise
- ☐ Device durability

True or False: AcoustIQ's environmental classification accuracy is the same across all hearing aid manufacturers.

- ☐ True
- ☐ False

Briefly explain your answer:

Click here to enter text.

Post-Course Reflection

What was the most significant thing you learned today that surprised you or challenged your existing practice?

Click here to enter text.

Describe a specific patient from your own practice where you would apply something from this course:

Click here to enter text.

Action Plan

Identify at least 2 specific, measurable changes you plan to make to your clinical practice as a direct result of this course.

My Action Plan Goal	Target Date	How I Will Measure Success
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

Quiz Summary

The following quiz hints appeared throughout the course content. Use this section as a quick study reference.

Q1

Quiz Hint: Intelligent All-Around is built from three breakthrough technologies working together: AcoustIQ (sound sensing and feature engagement), 4-mic beamforming, and DNN denoising.

Q2

Quiz Hint: The ReSound Sensia family includes custom styles (CIC, ITC, and rechargeable ITE) as well as microRIE and standard RIE models, with CROS and dedicated bimodal options available in the microRIE style.

Q3

Quiz Hint: Per Groth and Cui (2026), AcoustIQ activated the correct combination of features across all 8 real-world sound scenes tested, for an overall feature engagement accuracy of 100% — while the five competitor brands tested ranged from 47% to 53% accuracy.

Q4

Quiz Hint: Combining the 4-mic beamformer with DNN denoising supports the natural cognitive process of selecting and maintaining attention to a target talker — helping the listener stay with the person they intend to hear even when a nearby distractor becomes louder.

Q5

Quiz Hint: For DNN denoising specifically, Sensia level 9 provides automatic support in the primary program (P1) for the best speech-in-noise performance, while level 7 offers DNN denoising only through manual activation in the secondary program (P2).

References

Full bibliographic detail (journal titles, publishers, DOIs) was not provided in the source presentation; references are reproduced below exactly as cited in the course material.

Bluetooth SIG (2025)
Dong et al. (2024)
Ferschneider & Moulin (2023)
Fourie et al. (2024)
GN Proprietary data on file (2026)
Groth & Cui (2024)
Groth & Cui (2026)
Groth et al. (2023)
Hearing aid user interviews & Feedback from online forums (2025)
Jespersen & Hashem (2026)
Jespersen & Rubachandran (2025)
Jespersen & Rubachandran (2026)
Jespersen & Skovlund (2025)
Jespersen, Dieu & Rubachandran (2024)
Jespersen, Hashem, Aranda de Toro & Fernandez (2026)
Jespersen, Heeren & Quilter (2026)
MarkeTrak 25 (2025)
NAL (2026)
Quilter, Heeren & Jespersen (2026)
ReSound Sensia Quantitative Messaging Test (n=81), Feb 2026

Additional Information

Presenter Bio

Tammara Stender, Au.D. is Director of Global Audiology External Relations for GN Hearing. The Global Audiology groups, located in Copenhagen and Chicago, conduct research and development trials from a patient and hearing professional perspective for our new products. Prior to joining GN ReSound in 2003, Tammy was an Audiologist for Orlando Regional Healthcare in Orlando, Florida, where she provided pediatric diagnostic and amplification services. She earned her Master of Science degree in Audiology from Vanderbilt University, and her Doctor of Audiology degree from the University of Florida. In addition to her position at ReSound, she has held Adjunct Faculty positions at Northern Illinois University and Rush University in Chicago.

Presenter Disclosure

Financial: Tammara Stender is a ReSound employee.

Non-financial: Tammara Stender has no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose.

Additional Information (continued)

Handout Information

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- The course may not cover all possible risk factors, diagnostic methods, or treatment options, and complex cases may require additional considerations.
- 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.

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