

AUDIOLOGY BENEFIT MANAGEMENT NETWORK (ABM) POLMED'S NEW PROGRAMME FOR HEARING LOSS.

Dear Member

POLMED is pleased to announce the launch of our Audiology Network for members who have chronic hearing loss. Members can enrol on our ABM program from the 1st of October 2023.



Hearing loss is a severely underdiagnosed medical condition impacting more than 5% of South Africans. This chronic disease significantly impacts the physical and mental health of those suffering from mild or moderate hearing loss. People with hearing loss are five times more likely to suffer from Dementia (including Alzheimer's) and are 57% more likely to suffer from deep episodes of stress, anxiety or depression. People with hearing loss are also 32% more likely to be hospitalised than those with normal hearing.

The good news is chronic hearing loss can be easily treated with the right treatment plan and hearing aids, and people can continue to live an engaged and active lifestyle.

By introducing our Audiology Network, we can provide members with a complete ABM programme that covers all your diagnosis and treatment needs without unwanted co-payments.

In addition, we are also very excited to announce our 'Audiology Anywhere' initiative, where members no longer have to travel far distances to consult with an audiologist. We can send a mobile unit with a fully qualified audiologist to your home or wherever is convenient for you to provide consultations and perform all required testing. This is an industry first brought to you by POLMED.

Another industry first will be the availability of our **Online Hearing Screener** to all beneficiaries on all options as a primary preventative benefit entitlement. Find the link on our website, **www.POLMED.co.za**, and follow the self-help instructions. Should your results indicate any form of potential mild or moderate hearing loss, a **hearConnect** agent will contact you to arrange a consultation with one of our network agents.



You can contact hearConnect at (010 880 6414) or at polmed@hearconnect.co.za.











