

APT-D Fitting Recommendations

The fitting goal is to provide a comfortable and secure fit with a minimal amount of occlusion, while providing a pleasing appearance.

The ideal device placement is to position the faceplate slightly past the tragus into the canal. The body of the device should allow gaps between its shell and the canal wall. The tip should ideally not come in contact with the canal wall. The faceplate should not be visible from the front and may be slightly visible from the side (*fig 1*).

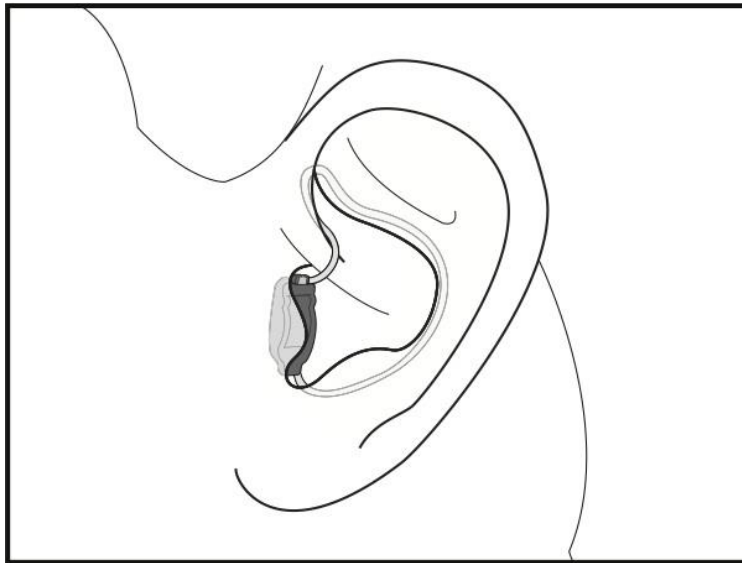


Figure 1

Selecting the appropriate D-Ring

- Step 1: Check to be sure the ear canal is large enough to hold the body of the APT-D (*see Inserting APT-D into Ear below*). If the canal is too small, the APT-D is not an appropriate device for this client.
- Step 2: **Medium D-Ring** - Attach the medium D-Ring to the APT-D body (*see Attaching D-Ring to APT-D Body below*).
- Step 3: Insert the APT-D into ear (*see Inserting APT-D into Ear below*). If the D-Ring will not fit or is deformed when it is in the ear then go to step 7 Small D-Ring.

- Step 4: If the D-Ring fits into ear, check to be sure it does not apply too much pressure. If there is too much pressure, then go to step 7 Small D-Ring.
- Step 5: Check to be sure the D-Ring is not too loose in the ear (*small red D-Ring in fig 2*). If it is too loose then go to step 11 Large D-Ring.
- Step 6: The APT-D with **Medium D-Ring** should be making contact with multiple points in the concha walls and the top fold of the D-Ring should be comfortably tucked into the top of the concha (*see green D-Ring in fig 2*). The **medium D-Ring is the proper choice**. Continue with fitting.

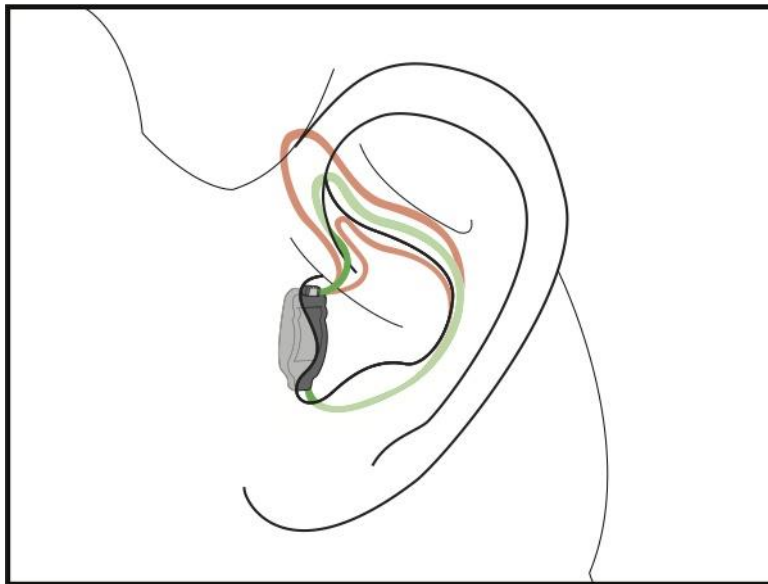


Figure 2 (Green is correct size, Red is too large or too small)

- Step 7: **Small D-Ring** - Remove medium D-Ring and attach the small D-Ring to the APT-D Body (*see Removing the APT-D D-Ring below*).
- Step 8: Insert the APT-D into ear (*see Inserting APT-D into Ear below*). If the D-Ring will not fit or is deformed when it is in the ear then **Stop** – The APT-D is not an appropriate device try an open fit BTE.
- Step 9: If the APT-D with small D-Ring is too loose then try the medium D-Ring again and make a determination if the small or medium D-Ring is best. A loose fit is preferable to a tight fit.
- Step 10: The APT-D with **Small D-Ring** should be making contact with multiple points in the concha walls and the top fold of the D-Ring should be comfortably tucked into the top of the concha (*fig 2*). The **small D-Ring is the proper choice**. Continue with fitting.



- Step 11: Large D-Ring - Remove medium D-Ring and attach the large D-Ring to the APT-D Body (*see Removing the APT-D D-Ring below*).
- Step 12: Insert the APT-D into ear (*see Inserting APT-D into Ear below*). If the D-Ring will not fit, is deformed when it is in the ear, or causes pressure then try the medium D-Ring again and make a determination if the large or medium D-Ring is best. A loose fit is preferable to a tight fit.
- Step 13 If the APT-D with large D-Ring is so loose that it could fall out then **Stop** – The APT-D is not an appropriate device try an open fit BTE.
- Step 14: The APT-D with Large D-Ring should be making contact with multiple points in the concha walls and the top fold of the D-Ring should be comfortably tucked into the top of the concha (*fig 2*). The large D-Ring is the proper choice. Continue with fitting.

The user’s ability to insert the device may also factor into the D-Ring size selection. If the user is having difficulty inserting the device, they may need to try the next size smaller.

Attaching the D-Ring to the APT-D Body

The APT-D body is designed to work for either the left or right ear. Attaching the D-Ring to the body will make the APT-D into a left or right device.

Selecting the correct side D-Ring. A D-Ring with **red** dot(s) is for the **right** side and a D-Ring with **blue** dot(s) is for the **left** side.

Size is indicated by a color dot scheme located on the bottom D-Ring clip: one Blue/Red dot and a white dot indicate a large size D-Ring; two Blue/Red dots indicate a medium size D-Ring, and one Blue/Red dot indicates a small size D-Ring. (*See below for examples*):

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------|-----|--------------|
| ● | Left Small | ● | Right Small |
| ● ● | Left Medium | ● ● | Right Medium |
| ● ○ | Left Large | ● ○ | Right Large |

Left D-Ring - With the correct size D-Ring, hold the body of the device in your left hand and the D-Ring in your right hand. Check to be sure the battery door of the device swings up and the blue color dot(s) on the D-Ring are facing you. First, attach the bottom of the

D-Ring by pushing it into the bottom clip holder on the device (*fig 3*). Now attach the top of the D-Ring by pushing it into the top clip holder (*fig 4*).

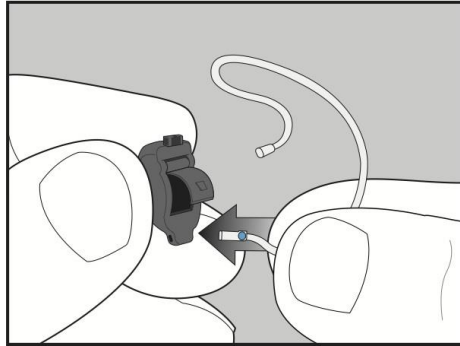


Figure 3

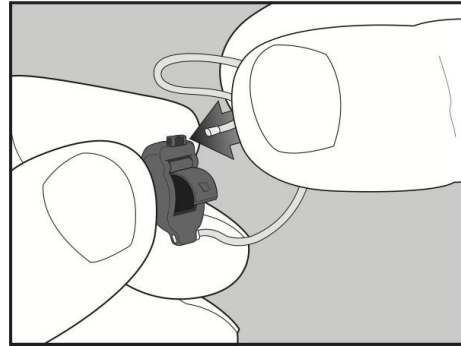


Figure 4

Right D-Ring - With the correct size D-Ring, hold the body of the device in your right hand and the D-Ring in your left hand. Check to be sure the battery door of the device swings up and the red color dot(s) on the D-Ring are facing you. First, attach the bottom of the D-Ring by pushing it into the bottom clip holder on the device (*fig 5*). Now attach the top of the D-Ring by pushing it into the top clip holder (*fig 6*).

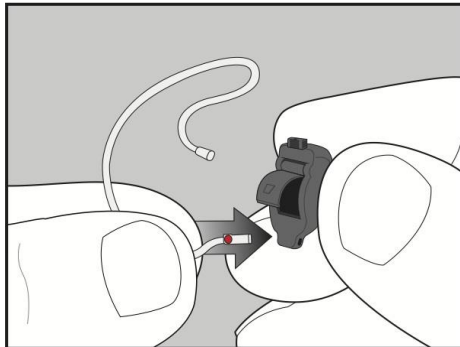


Figure 5

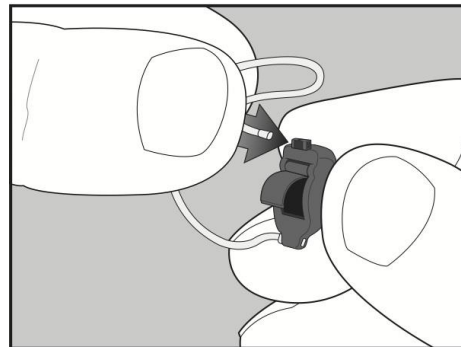


Figure 6

Removing the APT-D D-Ring

To remove the APT-D D-Ring, pull in the opposite direction in which it is shown to attach them above. Hold the device in one hand. Then pull at the upper and lower clips with the other hand until the D-Ring releases from the unit. It is very important that you hold the D-Ring as close to the clip as possible to prevent any damage to the D-Ring.

Inserting APT-D into Ear

Left Ear – Hold the APT-D with your left thumb and index finger (*see figure 7*).

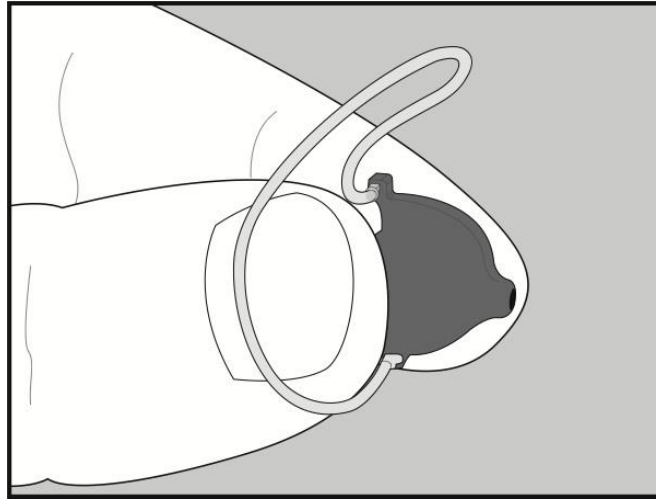


Figure 7

With the APT-D in your left hand, move the device up to your ear (*fig 8*). Begin inserting the device by directing the nose of the device a short distance down the ear canal towards the ear drum (*fig 9*). Gently push the D-Ring into the concha from the bottom (*fig 10*) and the top (*fig 11*). Make sure that the top of the D-Ring is securely tucked into the top of the concha area. Run your finger around the D-Ring to ensure that the D-Ring is not slipping out of the concha.

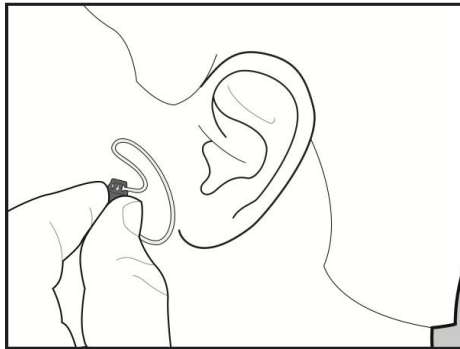


Figure 8

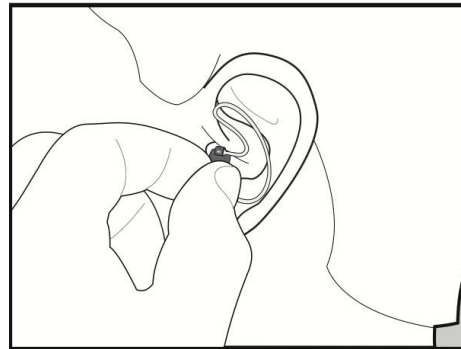


Figure 9



Figure 10

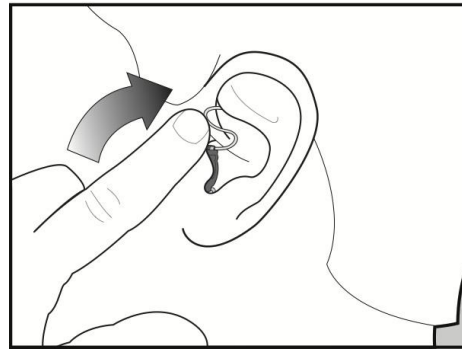


Figure 11

Right Ear – Hold the APT-D with your right thumb and index finger (*fig 12*).

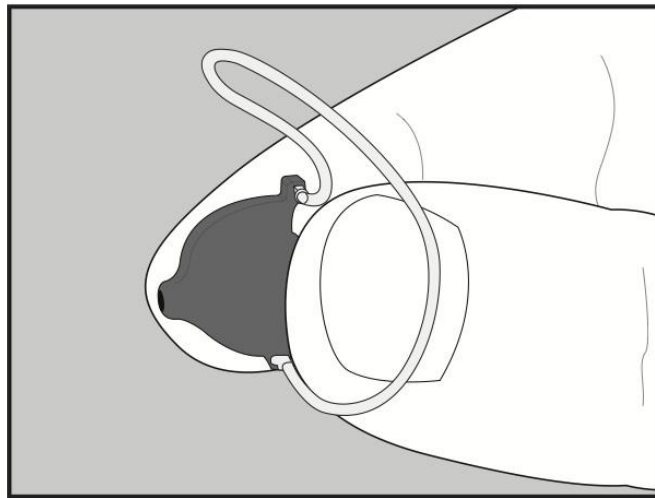


Figure 12

Repeat the instructions for the left ear with the device in your right hand. Figures 8 thru 11 apply, but the motions will take place on your right side.

The D-Ring should hold the APT-D body securely in place while also positioning it correctly in the ear canal. Allow the D-Ring to hold the device in place instead of pushing it too far down the canal. (A loose fit is preferable to a fit that causes pressure on the ear or in the canal). When a user is first learning how to insert the APT-D into their ear, a mirror or finding someone to assist is highly recommended.

Removing the APT-D from the Ear

Run the index finger of the appropriate hand around the edge of the concha until the finger is able to pull the D-Ring (*fig 13*). Then pull the D-Ring and device out of the ear.

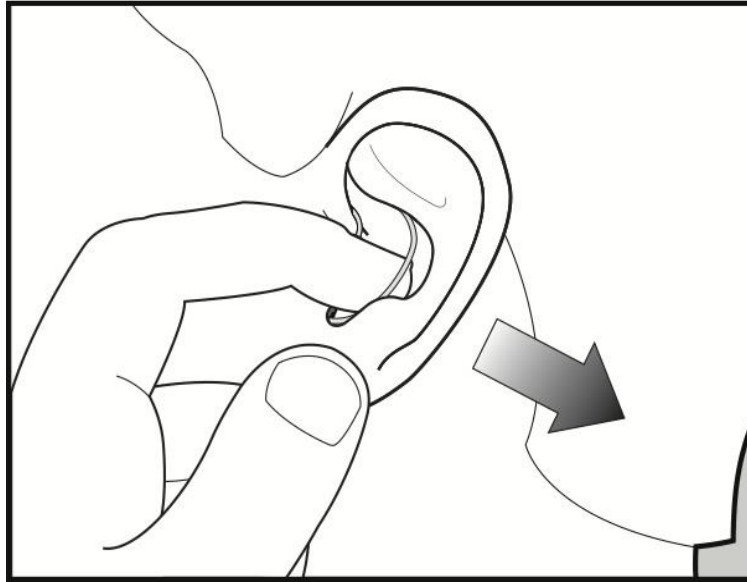


Figure 13

APT-D Acoustic Push Button

The acoustic push button has four settings: Off, Single Tap, Double Tap and Hold & Double Tap. For all types of switch functionality, the fingers should be held together and the finger tips should lightly tap the outer part of the ear (*fig 14*). The tap should be a flat pat on the ear that generates a “thud” like sound. It is the specific pressure wave generated by this pat that actuates the switch. The pat should be soft and should never be painful or severe enough to cause ringing in your ear.

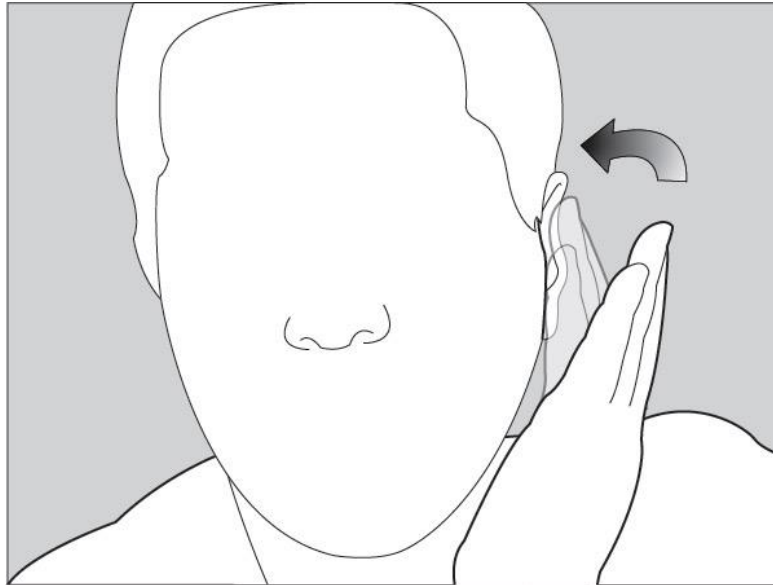


Figure 14

Single Tap – Tap once to change the memory. This is the simplest to operate. This setting may be falsely triggered by environmental noises such as a car door closing. If the user is comfortable changing back to their preferred program if this occurs, this may be the appropriate setting.

Double Tap – This requires two taps about ½ second apart to change memories. The double tap switch option is less sensitive to false triggers than the single tap. This is the recommended switch mode for new users.

Hold and Double Tap – This switch requires the fingers to be held over the canal opening for about one second followed by two taps. This mode is the least prone to false triggers.

Notes regarding the different switching modes.

- *A few minutes of practice is typically sufficient for the wearer to become comfortable with the tap function.*
- *If the switch does not work, remove the hand and wait two seconds and try again.*
- *Operating the tap switch does NOT require the device to be touched.*

Inserting and Extracting the Wax Guard

The APT-D is designed for a shallow location in the ear canal, so wax is typically less of an issue than with traditional ITEs. Still, a wax guard is used to insure against wax damage to the receiver. A wax guard tool is used for the removal and insertion of the wax guards. The threaded end of the tool is used for removing the used wax guard and the opposite end is used for inserting a new wax guard (*fig 15*).

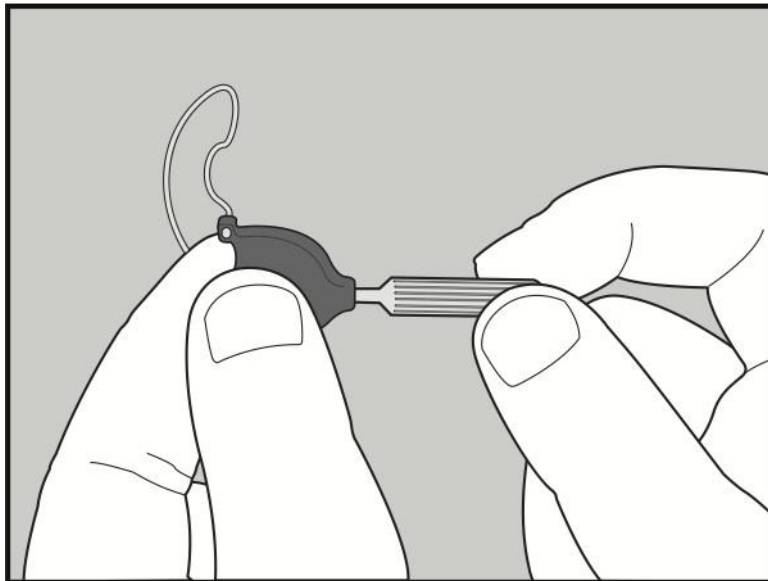


Figure 15

Using a Lapel Clip to Position the Programming Cable

A lapel clip can be used to support the programming cable during a fitting session. This helps prevent the weight of the cable from pulling the device out of the patient's ear (*fig 16*).

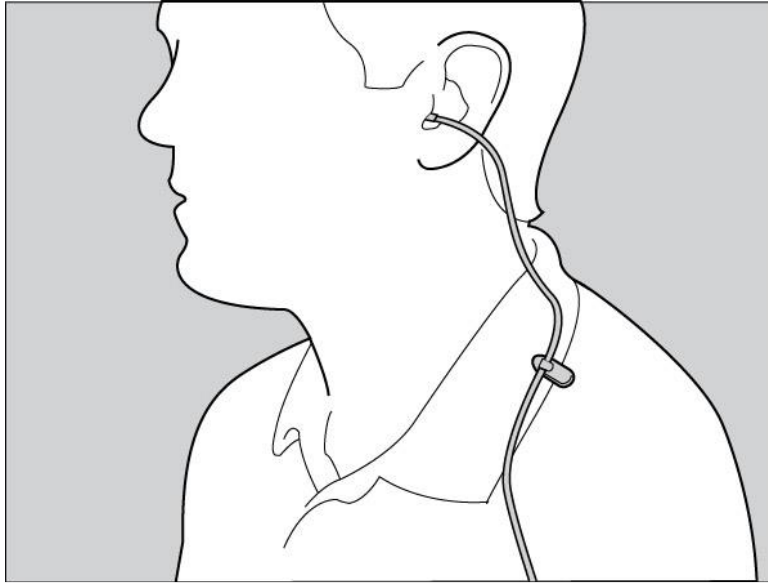


Figure 16