

AEA Guidelines for Professional Hearing Care for COVID-19 – 20th of April 2020



Dear AEA member, dear Hearing Aid Professional,

After discussing with the AEA management, all board members and based on the experience of our FIA colleagues in Italy, we developed the **AEA Guidelines for Professional Hearing Care during the COVID-19 period.**

General:

We deliver essential health care and in these critical days, we need to avoid that our healthcare professionals would no longer be able to work or would spread the virus.

Hearing and communication are essential in this COVID-19 period. Individuals need to access news reports from television and Internet. In a time when people are practicing social distancing, they need to be able to communicate virtually via phone and other virtual platforms with loved ones. Therefore, we need to be able to **provide essential care.**

On the other side, our clients, mostly in the 65+ age group are much more vulnerable and sensitive for COVID-19, so **we need to reduce the risks.**

Since at this stage, **the situation is very diverse in Europe on the COVID-19 situation,** since **some countries are still in full lock-down** and **other countries are starting with Phase I of the COVID-19 exit strategy** while carefully monitoring the situation.

Therefore, the **Generic AEA COVID-19 Guidelines needed to be adjusted** to these very regional and country dependent situations. We are right now supporting our local AEA member countries, with the exchange of the guidelines, developed in our member countries, if they ask for it, but **since the diversity, we won't make the exit strategy guidelines available on the AEA website,** but they will be available for all AEA members.

For additional information and guidance, please only refer to official sources like the World Health Organization, dedicated section, the AEA (European Association of Hearing Aid Professionals) and your Local Health Authorities.

- [The use of protective masks - WHO](#)
- [AEA Hygiene Protocol](#)
- [Infection control for Covid-19 - WHO](#)
- [European Commission Response Covid-19](#)