



# WHAT DID YOU SAY?

## WHEN HEARING IS A PROBLEM

“My father never seems to hear what I say to him. He wears hearing aids but they do not help. I must yell over the loud TV when I visit.”

### WHAT TO DO:

- Eliminate distractions or other sounds
- Turn off the TV or radio
- Close the door to the room
- Move to a quieter area
- Face the listener and gain his attention before beginning to speak
- Do not chew gum or cover your face while talking
- Speak in a deeper (low pitch) voice – it will be easier to hear
- Speak slowly and clearly, but do not shout
- Use gestures to help the understanding of words
- Write information in bold printed letters to make sure the message is understood
- Speak to ear with better hearing
- Ask questions to make sure the listener is following the conversation



Ask a nurse to check the hearing aid. It should be turned on and contain a working battery. If problems with the hearing aid persist, ask for a referral to a licensed audiologist or physician. If the person does not have a hearing aid and is having trouble understanding you, a hearing evaluation may be needed.

***Good hearing is important for effective communication.***