



Alberta Gerontological Nurses Association

2022-2023 Report to the Membership

Provincial Executive Reports

President

Submitted by Kelly Baskerville

Dear members, we need more #GeroNurses. The government of Alberta estimates 1 in 5 people will be over 65 years old in the next twenty years. What gerontological nurses know is this represents a wide range of experience, ability, and need. Every person has a different experience, and people become more unique as they grow older. We face bias in health care and society about age. Much of what we teach in health care is geriatrics, the study of medical syndromes associated with aging. Gerontology is powerful. It considers the whole vision of aging for a person, including genetics, lifestyle, environment, and culture. What 85 years old looks like for one person may be a busy time with work, caregiving, and activity, yet may mean frailty and dependence for another.

This year, AGNA worked to build back after the challenges of the pandemic. We saw our chapters start to hold in-person meetings for the first time. Board members were no longer talking about redeployment and 7-day work weeks, but about time with family and taking time off. There are still demands to be met, but the excitement and energy that is emerging is so welcome.

We were thrilled to sponsor two members to attend the CGNA conference in Ontario in April, through our ACE Awards. Congratulations to Jason and Cherryll!

We represented gerontological nurses in several capacities this past year:

- [Government of Alberta - Community Care Innovation Forum](https://open.alberta.ca/publications/community-care-innovation-forum-summary-report) - Participant
<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/community-care-innovation-forum-summary-report>
- [Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association](https://membership.cgna.net/) (CGNA) - Board Member
<https://membership.cgna.net/>
- [Perspectives, the journal of the CGNA](https://membership.cgna.net/membership/?redirect_to=/perspectives) - Advisory Committee Member
https://membership.cgna.net/membership/?redirect_to=/perspectives
- [Alberta Association of Nurses](https://albertanursing.ca/)
<https://albertanursing.ca/>

Provincial Board

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President: Kelly Baskerville

Past President: Edythe
Andison

President Elect: Vacant

Secretary: Dominika
Barefoot

Treasurer: Anshu Gupta

Membership: Ma Tonilynn
Chua

Education: Jennifer Boone

Communications: Judy
Ward-Worrell

Advocacy: Yvonne Appah

Webmaster: Brian Ward

Calgary Chairperson:
Ecaterina Nistor/Jasmine
Hwang

Edmonton Chairperson:
Brittany Walsh/Nadeth
Palmer

Red Deer Chairperson:
Catriona Blythe



- [Seniors' Services Workforce Think Tank with Alberta Association on Gerontology \(AAG\)](https://albertaaging.ca/think-tanks/) – *Co-lead*
<https://albertaaging.ca/think-tanks/>
- [AAG Stakeholder Collaborative Committee](https://albertaaging.ca/stakeholder-collaborative-committee-scc/) - *Member*
<https://albertaaging.ca/stakeholder-collaborative-committee-scc/>
- [Dementia Network of Calgary's Strategic Map](https://dementianetworkcalgary.ca/strategy-roadmap/) - *Participant*
<https://dementianetworkcalgary.ca/strategy-roadmap/>
- [COURAGE Roadmap for Action](https://actionforbetteraging.ca/) - *Participant*
<https://actionforbetteraging.ca/>

We impact policy, education, and advocacy. Our expertise is needed and welcomed, more than ever. We need each other to move forward, and what we need is you. If you are unsure about volunteering with AGNA, let me assure you of this: you already know enough. You already have the expertise. We depend on a diverse range of perspectives, life experiences, professional knowledge, and opinions. We learn together, and all great teams start as strangers. AGNA offers you professional experience, a supportive network, access to education and a chance to impact your community and province. Associations are the voice of their members, and our voice is stronger together.

I offer my deep gratitude to our Provincial and Chapter Board members, who have kept AGNA alive and set the stage for a bright future. We thank you for your continued membership and look forward to seeing you at our Education Day in Red Deer this September.

Past President

Submitted by Edythe Andison

Upon reading my past president annual report from 2022, I am reminded that I indicated I was finishing my term as past president. Well, one year later, I am still in the past president roll. Like many boards, we are volunteers. The global pandemic has impacted so many in different ways. Volunteerism has taken an enormous hit with people facing competing priorities in addition to competing asks for their time. AGNA was created over 40 years ago by like-minded and passionate individuals to promote gerontology and to create a network of colleagues in the province of Alberta.

This past year has been a time for re-focus for AGNA and a time for advocacy as we have come through three years of COVID-19 and the impacts on our sector. We are recognized by others as an association with merit and with passion to improve and promote seniors' care. AGNA has been at the table with other organizations to discuss the workforce crisis we are facing and offer insights and opinions in addition to a role in advocacy to regulators.

With new continuing care legislation and regulation forthcoming now is the time to have a strong voice and we need your help. While our AGNA membership levels remain consistent and our province has the largest numbers of gerontology certified nurses, our local chapter boards and our provincial boards cannot continue without new volunteers and members. AGNA has chapters in Red Deer, Calgary, and Edmonton. As the saying goes, more hands make for light work. We need more people to be engaged and we need new team members to pass the batons to.



Together we can make a difference. Please reach out to info@agna.ca if you are interested in being more engaged. It will not disappoint. You will discover new colleagues; you will learn new things through our education sessions and most of all you will be supporting a greater community.

It is also an excellent opportunity to gain board experience if you have never been on one. We are preparing to host our annual education day in September. The first in several years. I look forward to connecting with old friends and to meet hopefully many new ones. AGNA has much to offer and now is the time to build on our passion to make a difference. I hope to see you and meet you soon.

The Executive and Board Members

The AGNA Executive is mandated by our By-Laws, developed in 1986, and updated April 2021.

You can find these on our website, at agna.ca/about/bylaws-and-policies/

Our business year is from April 1 to March 31.

Executive Officers:	
President	Kelly Baskerville
Past President	Edythe Andison
President Elect	Vacant
Secretary	Dominika Barefoot
Treasurer	Anshu Gupta
Board members:	
Membership Coordinator	Ma Tonilynn Chua
Advocacy	Yvonne Appah
Communications	Judy Ward Worrell
Education	Jennifer Boone
Calgary Chairperson	Ecaterina Nistor/Jasmine Hwang
Edmonton Chairperson	Brittany Walsh/Nadeth Palmer
Red Deer Chairperson	Catriona Blythe
Provincial Study Group	Ecaterina Nistor
Representative on CGNA Board	Edythe Andison
Administrative Staff:	
Webmaster	Brian Ward

Purpose, Mission, and Objectives

The following is taken from AGNA's By-laws, Reviewed March 2021.

Purpose

The central purpose of AGNA is to bring together Nurses who are interested in gerontology and whose intent is to improve the health, wellness, and quality of life of older adults.

Mission Statement

The mission of AGNA is to provide leadership in promoting excellence in Gerontological nursing in Alberta.

Objectives

1. To promote high standards of Gerontological nursing in Alberta
2. To promote and provide continuing learning opportunities in Gerontological nursing
3. To advocate, foster, and participate in activities which promote the health and quality of life of older adults in the Alberta community
4. To promote networking opportunities for nurses
5. To promote and disseminate Gerontological nursing research
6. To present the views of AGNA to government, educational, professional, and other appropriate bodies
7. To assist in developing a supportive, healthy work-life environment for Gerontological nurses in Alberta

AGNA This Year

Secretary

Submitted by Dominika Barefoot

Board meetings were held September 22, October 28, November 4, December 6 of 2022 and February 16, April 5 of 2023. Copies of the minutes are filed on our Association's web server.

Our board welcomed Anshu Gupta to the role of Treasurer in December, and incoming Chapter Chairs Jasmine Hwang and Nadeth Palmer. We thank those who are completing their terms, and to those continuing in their roles.

Treasurer

Submitted by Kelly Baskerville on behalf of Anshu Gupta, Treasurer

We encountered several unanticipated delays in access to our account this spring and met multiple times with our Bank. This year's financial statement covers the period of March 31st, 2022, to June 17th, 2023, and GIC balance reported as of July 14, 2023. We will return to regular reporting next fiscal year.

Statement of ASSETS

As of July 14, 2023

GIC – Bank of Montreal – due Jan. 27, 2025	\$5,314.79
GIC – Bank of Montreal – due Jan. 18, 2024	\$15,000.78
BMO Bank Account Balance as of Jun 17, 2023	\$14,495.72

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT & BUDGET 2022-2023
(Not reviewed)

EXPENSES	PROPOSED EXPENSES 2022-2023	ACTUAL EXPENSES 2022-2023	PROPOSED EXPENSES 2023-2024
Liabilities	0	6637.50	0
Chapter membership Allocations	5000	0	5000
Website development	2500	2763	2500
IT Services	1000	1222.20	1500
Executive committee & administrative costs	1000	773.94	1000
AGNA AGM	500	300	300
AGNA education day 2022	7000	0	N/A
AGNA education day 2023	N/A	1000	7000
Pay Pal Payments	125	0	125
Promotions	1500	1500	1500
CGNA conference	1000	0	0
Bank fees	50	48	50
Education awards	2000	2000	2000
Other	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$21,675.00	\$16,244.64	\$20,975.00
REVENUE	2022-2023 PROPOSED	2022-2023 ACTUAL	2023-2024 PROPOSED
Membership	9000	6905	7500
AGNA education day 2023	0	0	7500
CGNA Conference 2022	0 *amended	0	0
GIC interest	50.00	63.06	50
Donation	0	0	
TOTAL REVENUE	9,050.00 *amended	6,968.06	15,050.00
	- 12,625	- 9,276.58	- 5,925 *If mature GIC is cashed in, + 9075

Notes to Financial Statements

1. *Liabilities - funds committed but not processed during the fiscal year (up to June 17th, 2023): total of \$6,637.50.*
 - CGNA conference, registration, and travel reimbursement for two delegates; total of \$1,566.
 - CGNA conference donation for silent auction; total of \$47.25

- *AAN conference registration reimbursement for three delegates; total of \$1,181.25*
 - *Chapter Membership allocations; Calgary \$1844.64; Edmonton \$1498.77; Red Deer \$499.59, for a total of \$3,843.00.*
2. *Membership - disbursement cheques were processed after March 31, 2023, and are reflected in liabilities.*
 3. *Website development - online education session fees for support services and annual Zoom subscription fee*
 4. *IT Services - annual web hosting fee*
 5. *Executive Committee and administrative costs - \$753.94 travel and accommodation at ACCA conference for one delegate; \$20 gift card for draw*
 6. *Zoom membership – moved to website development category, as suggested in last year’s AGM.*
 7. *AGNA AGM - fees for online session support*
 8. *Education Day - Event deferred in 2022 to 2023. Budget carried over for 2023 event, \$1000 paid for deposit on venue. Includes facility costs, catering, service fees.*
 9. *Pay pal payments – only utilized for Education Day registration; 2022 budget carried over to 2023.*
 10. *Promotions – includes collaboration with other organizations and exhibitor fees at conferences.*
 11. *CGNA conference – amended at 2022 AGM from \$350 to cover one delegate’s registration and travel at conference in Ontario in 2013 (approx. \$1000). Actual spending: donation of one item to silent auction, and board voted to approve reimbursement of registration and travel for two delegates – listed under Liabilities.*
 12. *Bank fees: \$4 per month account fee*
 13. *Education Awards - The ACE awards account for two \$1000 awards which supported members to attend the CGNA conference in Niagara Falls, Ontario.*
 14. *Membership – membership decreased over the pandemic, but we have observed a slow increase over the past year, which we anticipate will continue.*
 15. *Education Day 2023 revenue: Estimated revenue based on registration of \$100 for members, with 75 attendees. Expected to cover venue, catering, and service fees.*
 16. *CGNA Conference: no revenue to AGNA except on years that Alberta hosts; conference held in Ontario this year.*
 17. *Our \$15000 GIC will mature in January 2024; this is a progressive investment and linked to the interest rate, so any interest gained will be reflected at the time of maturity.*
 18. *Revenue: amended to reflect removal of CGNA conference revenue during non-host year, and possible addition of GIC funds upon maturity in January 2024.*

Membership

Submitted by Ma Tonilynn Chua

Reported May 1, 2023

CHAPTER	MEMBERS			
	Members	Associates	Students	TOTAL
CALGARY	111	2	9	122
EDMONTON	84	2	12	98
RED DEER	28	1	7	36
MISC	4	0	1	5
TOTAL	227	5	29	261

CGNA transitioned to new software this year. There remain some outstanding issues with the database that we will work towards resolving:

1) There are still non-active chapters listed in the renewal form. I have re-allocated these members to the nearest respective chapter to ensure that they receive appropriate emails and updates. I will inquire about removing these chapters from the list of options when renewing.

- Edmonton – includes all members who have selected the Edmonton chapter, those that have selected the inactive Viking chapter (2 members), and those that reside in the following areas: Barrhead, Beaumont, Camrose, Edmonton, Fort McMurray, Gibbons, Grande Prairie, Morinville, Redwater, Sherwood Park, Smoky Lake, Spruce Grove, St. Albert, St. Paul, Stony Plain, Swan Hills, Wabasca
- Calgary – includes all members who have selected the Calgary chapter, those that have selected the inactive Lethbridge chapter (2 members) and those that reside in the following areas: Airdrie, Brooks, Calgary, Canmore, Chestermere, Cochrane, Didsbury, Dunmore, High River, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Millarville, Okotoks, Rocky View County
- Red Deer – includes all members who have selected the Red Deer chapter and those that reside in the following areas: Alhambra, Beaver County, Blackfalds, Eckville, Innisfail, Lacombe, Olds, Penhold, Red Deer, Rimbey, Rocky Mountain House, Sundre, Sylvan Lake

2) Miscellaneous members - There are currently 4 out-of-province members and 1 member who has not selected a specific chapter and did not input an address. Emails will be sent to these members to inquire if they would still like to receive correspondence from AGNA.

3) I currently do not have access to information regarding designations of each member (ex. RN, LPN, NP), but will update this as soon as possible.

Provincial News

Communication

Submitted by Judy Worrell and Jessica Wilson

The communication committee has met monthly except over the summer and has worked on priorities the group established in the previous year, as well as other initiatives as needs arose:

1. Ongoing and regular communication to the general membership. We have been active in sending emails and blogs with links to other documents of interest to members. Highlights from the AGNA Provincial Board, special events like Alzheimer's Month, ACE Awards announcement, and an acronym quiz are other examples of information sharing.
2. Work with Web Master to update information on the website – ongoing.
3. Enhanced use of social media sites to share information with members and raise AGNA's profile – also ongoing. A work in process.
4. Communication to members re: Social Media Policy – this has been posted on the website and will briefly be addressed at the AGM to further inform members.
5. Attending on-line sessions on behalf of AGNA (AAG Futures Policy Forums, Connecting People and Communities for Health Living (Formerly PHC-IGSI).
6. Participation at the AAG/AGNA Think Tank in Leduc. An interesting day to inform policy recommendations for change to enhance senior's service workforce across sectors.
7. Unfinished - updates to Operations Manual. However, the documents created by the Communications Committee have been uploaded to the File Manager on the website for access by Board Members

We have continued collaboration among the three AGNA committees (Communication, Advocacy, Education) and ad hoc Communication Committee members (President and Webmaster) to facilitate timely and consistent communication and messages to our members. Thanks to all who have participated in the past year. A very special thank you and acknowledgement to Jessica Wilson who took on the role of Co-Chair over the past year. Her techno savvy and fresh new ideas have been invaluable.

We continue to contribute to the work of the Association on behalf of the board. In the coming year, our work will be prioritized following the AGM and formation of the committee memberships. These include ongoing activities as noted above. In addition, the following new initiatives will be undertaken:

- Develop a member needs survey (tentatively posted in June) to identify what our members would like the Association to undertake on their behalf. How can we support our members?
- Disseminating survey data and determining actions to support member needs identified in the survey.
- Assisting the Education Planning Day Committee to ensure clear communication and build anticipation for the long-awaited face-to-face gathering.

Education

Submitted by Jennifer Boone

Over the past year the AGNA executive has continued to host online education sessions. We are also very excited to be planning an in-person event in Red Deer on September 23, 2023. The AGNA annual conference was a cherished event pre-pandemic, and we look forward to returning to that tradition.

- On November 23 the Calgary chapter organized an online event “Dying with Dignity”, presented by Kelsey Goforth and Melissa. They graciously invited all AGNA members to join in their session.
- January 21 AGNA hosted a presentation from Dr Jordana Salma and Dr Maya Kalogirou on “Insights on Climate Change Advocacy in Nursing Research and Practice”. This was a very thought provoking topic in light of current concerns with the climate crisis.
- Our final session was hosted on April 5 on “Building Bridges: AGNA’s journey with AAG on the Cultural Change Project and the Workforce Think Tank”. A big thank-you to 2 of our executive members, Kelly Baskerville, and Yvonne Appah, for presenting and leading a lively discussion.

The presentations are also available for viewing on the AGNA website for members that were unable to attend the live sessions.

In 2023 AGNA decided to use our ACE awards to encourage attendance at the CGNA conference being hosted in Niagara Falls. We offered two, \$1000 scholarships.

I would like to thank our 2 committee members, Dr. Kathleen Hunter, and Dr. Sherry Dahlke for their continued support and assistance. I would also like to thank the chapter presidents for joining our meetings and offering suggestions and support.

Advocacy

Submitted by Yvonne Appah

The preceding year’s activity included a review of committee membership. We have partnered with the Communications committee to develop strategies to target various communication platforms. We also had an opportunity to partner with the Education committee for an education session on our work with the Alberta Association on Gerontology. We are excited about the year to come.

A few ideas are to:

- develop templates for lobbying community stakeholders.
- Another modality is to partner with different Alberta chapters to highlight their advocacy outreach on the membership page.

Past documents:

CARNA: *Seniors and Healthy Ageing* (2011); Summary of recommended edits Jan. 2018; Mary Whale; AGNA Education Series Think Tank Webinar, May 5, 2023.

Chapter Reports

Calgary

Submitted by Ecaterina Nistor

Chapter Executive Officers

Chapter Chair (Jan 15 – current)	Jasmine Hwang	Project Liaison	Marichelle Rogers
Past Chair (Jan 15- current)	Ecaterina Nistor	Members at Large	Ma Tonillyn Chua Nicole Abaya
Secretary	Justine Murray	Membership	Vacant
Treasurer	Jeanne Harker	Chair Elect	Vacant
Education	Sandra Stone	Academic Liaison	Vacant
Social	Monique Martin-Parent		

Introduction

The Calgary chapter is committed to serving our membership through education events, study groups, financial reimbursement, and recruitment of executive members. We are pleased to share that we were able to recruit two new executive members (Marichelle and Nicole) last May. Marichelle Rogers played an active role as the project liaison working on a shared project with the Alberta Association of Gerontology. We continue to recruit executive RN and LPN members for vacant positions. This past year, except some of our executive meetings, all education events were offered online via Zoom. Moving forward, we plan to arrange a mix of in-person and online events to enhance opportunities to connect our members. With that regard, our 2023 annual general meeting will be an in-person event along with an education/network event. In addition, we are committed to supporting our members with their gerontological competency through offering online study groups and financial incentives. Our annual budget includes reimbursement of four \$300.00 for the initial certification (two for RNs and two for LPNs) and two \$150.00 for re-certification upon passing or successful renewal of the gerontological nursing certification. Finally, in January 2023, our chair-elect Jasmine Hwang successfully transitioned into the chair role. Ecaterina Nistor transitioned from the chair to the past-chair and continues to provide her mentorship and support to the team.

Study Group

The Canadian Nurses Association certification for gerontological nursing study groups were advertised to our membership both this fall and spring. While we had some interested participants at the introduction evening, few members committed to attending the study group – two people in the fall and one person in the spring. No study groups were held this year because study groups are not feasible with a group of fewer than 5 people. Instead, in the fall, we offered individual mentorship to two nurses, and they passed their initial certification exam successfully.

Membership

According to the 2023 May update, the Calgary chapter had 123 members during the 2022-2023 year.

Education Sessions

This year we held a couple of virtual education sessions with two inspirational speakers. In May, we will have our first in-person education/social event since the start of the pandemic.

- May 2022 – “A Discussion of Small Homes for People with Dementia in Alberta” presented by Shawna Reid MN, RN, GNC(C).
- November 2022 – “Dying with Dignity” presented by Melissa Muller, Program Specialist and Kelsey Goforth, Director of Program with Dignity Canada.
- May 2023 – “Honoring our Nurses: Past, Current, and Future” panel discussion.

Information Sessions

- August 2022 – Fall Gerontology Certification Study Group Information Session
- February 2023 – Spring Gerontology Certification Study Group Information Session Page 3 of 7

Budget

The AGNA Calgary treasurer actions supported the aims and objectives of the chapter initiatives throughout the year. Aside from the general expenditure, AGNA funds were used to:

- 1) Zoom account
- 2) 3 Indigo gift card draws for education survey participation
- 3) 3 Gift cards for guest speakers
- 4) Thank-you cards and plants for 3 long-term executive member volunteers
- 5) Meals for the executives at the 2022 year-end dinner meeting
- 6) Donations to Dignity Canada (\$100.00) and ACE award (\$500.00)
- 7) Gerontological Re-Certification draw of \$150.00. As of March 31, 2023, bank account funds to date remains at \$12,105.25.

Concluding Remarks

The AGNA Calgary Chapter is excited about the upcoming membership year! We strongly encourage our members to voice their ideas, provide input and take on various volunteering roles. We are always looking for energetic, passionate RN and LPN colleagues who would like to share their expertise, knowledge, and skills.

Edmonton

Submitted by Brittany Walsh

Chapter Executive Officers

Chairperson	Brittany Walsh
Chair Elect	Nadeth Palmer
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Jason Woytas
Social/Education Past Chair	Vacant

As 2022-2023 wraps up for the Edmonton Chapter Executive we want to thank Jane Wald for her involvement as treasurer for the past few years. Jason Woytas has agreed to take the treasurer role.



Nadeth Palmer joined our team in 2021 and assumed the role of Chairperson for the Edmonton Chapter at our AGM in June 2023. I will be stepping back but hoping to contribute to the AGNA Edmonton Chapter in additional ways and helping support Nadeth with the transition.

Congratulations to Cherryll de la Cruz and Teresa Ruston who were recipients of funding to support local attendance at the CGNA 2023 Conference. We are looking forward to them sharing their experiences at our AGM.

The Edmonton Chapter is still looking for members to be involved at the executive level. We would be pleased to fill several positions, including secretary, education, chair-elect and welcome any additional member wanting to be involved.

2022-2023 brought another year of shared ventures. With the challenges the chapter has faced over the past pandemic years some difficult discussions were had regarding sustainability of the Chapter. A survey has gone out to all Edmonton members to help with future decision making.

Red Deer

Submitted by Catriona Blythe

Chapter Executive Officers

Chairperson	Catriona Blythe
Past Chairperson	Andy Le Blanc
Treasurer	Audrey Pennycook
Secretary	Raigne Symes

Summary in Brief:

I am excited to share the events of our Red Deer Chapter over the past year. Last year our goal for the 2022/2023 was to host more in-person events to allow our membership to reconnect and network face-to-face. I can proudly say we accomplished this goal and more!

Our chapter jumped into a voyage of learning more about the resources in our area by taking meetings on the road and hosting events directly in the building of the organization we were learning about. I want to take the time to recognize the hard work, dedication, and important role that our community organizations play in supporting older adults in our area as well as the nurses that work in gerontology.

The highlight of this year for me was being able to host a public education event once again. Our presentation from our local audiologist was well received and we hope to host many more in the future.

Membership Meetings/Chapter activities:

October 5, 2022: Chapter Meeting/Member Education Event

- Hybrid, in-person and zoom at Alzheimer Society office



- Alzheimer Society – Red Deer Chapter provided education on memory and memory loss, how the society is run, funding, how referrals are made, and support for caregivers and people living with dementia
- Brainstormed possible upcoming events and education sessions

November 15, 2022: Chapter Meeting/Member Education Event

- In-person at Alzheimer Society Office
- Red Deer Primary Care Network MINT Memory Clinic provided education on services they offer, how clients can access, how an assessment looks, support for caregivers and people living with memory loss

December 13, 2022: Chapter Social Event, Networking

- In-person social event

January 17, 2023: Member Education Event

- In-person at The Lending Cupboard
- The Lending Cupboard provided education on their history, process of accepting, cleaning and lending medical equipment, people served and volunteer roles. Also provided a tour of their facility and equipment available.

March 21, 2023: Public Education Event

- Hosted in partnership with The Golden Circle – Seniors Resource Centre
- Dr. Towers, audiologist presented on myths and truths about hearing aids, the process and importance of hearing testing by an audiologist, and types of hearing aids