In general, the open fit are more comfortable and for those with lower losses. The more closed the fit, the more SPL (Sound Pressure Level) that can be developed in the ear canal (and against the tympanic membrane (ear drum)) at any given frequency by the same power out of the aid. This is simply because more "sound" or SPL escaped the ear canal when the fitting is open.

While I am not an audiologist, other than my own, the hearing loss data you sent along in your audiogram, in conjunction with your Exelia M aids, tends to tell me an Open Fitting should be more comfortable and capable of addressing your hearing losses. That having been said, the links below will give you valuable information on how the open vs. closed fit applies to your specific hearing loss(es). The short answer is that with the Exelias's, and their excellent digital processing circuitry, specifically the anti-feedback controls and processing, open fit applies well because your low frequency loss is minimal to mild, i.e. <40 dB HL @ 500 Hz.

Directly below is probably the best short explanation - a paper by Oticon, but applicable to all modern digital "fast transform/processing" hearing aids such as the Phonaks and Siemens.

http://www.oticonusa.com/Oticon/Professional_Resources/Library/News_From_Oticon/Open_Ear_Hearing_Aid_Fittings.html

Candidacy for Open Ear Fittings:

Occlusion is most likely to be experienced by those with normal or mild hearing loss in the low frequencies. As hearing loss progresses past approximately 40 dB HL in the low frequencies (250 and 500 Hz), amplified sound from the hearing aid is usually sufficient to overcome the perception of occlusion (Dillon, 2001). Nonetheless, open fittings are not only desirable for those with good hearing in the low frequencies. Rather, open ear hearing aid fittings are beneficial for all people requiring hearing aid amplification.

http://journals.lww.com/thehearingjournal/Fulltext/2006/11000/Hearing_aid_outcomes_with_open__and_closed_canal.10.aspx

...Recently, manufacturers have developed open-canal (OC) hearing aids said to address many of the concerns that patients and dispensers have expressed about fitting high-frequency hearing losses. Specifically, the OC product uses a small, non-occluding, non-custom eartip placed in the ear canal, essentially eliminating the occlusion effect due to significant leak venting. OC fitting devices are small enough to be minimally visible and physically unobtrusive for most patients, while reportedly providing sufficient gain to improve audibility and understanding for high-frequency losses.

... In summary, the cosmetic, localization, and comfort advantages reported by Taylor, the data from dispensers of both products reported by Johnson, the improved ratings of satisfaction with respect to occlusion and comfort, decreased reported difficulty in key listening environments, and the decreased return-for-credit rates give dispensers strong support for fitting OC (open canal) devices on appropriate audiometric candidates.

That pretty much makes the case for open fit if at all possible. The one element of concern in terms of open fit is that like my hearing loss, yours becomes significant in the frequencies above between 1.5 kHz and 2.0 kHz and the right side drops down to -105 dB at its worst at 6 kHz. This basically indicates we need to be certain to run the Anti-Feedback test and configuration (in a very quiet environment) so as to optimize the ability to have high gain at higher frequencies without feedback (whistling). It also indicates our specific individual programs should be set to at least "light" feedback or moderate feedback correction. See the two shots below directly below.

FEEDBACK TESTING SCREEN
FIRST SCREEN OF FEEDBACK ("Whistle Block" Level) CORRECTION LEVEL SETTINGS (DO FOR EACH CATEGORY ON THE LEFT WHERE POSSIBLE)
Given the wide spectrum of capabilities of the Phonaks in general, they should be in the range that will address this issue very well for both of us, but it will require that we spend time learning, tweaking, testing and then re-tweaking to optimize our hearing to the form and format we personally desire. Keep in mind, there are also varying degrees of “Open Fit” domes that can be found at Costco, Amazon.com, Ebay, WalMart etc. It might be good to experiment with a few different sizes and levels of occlusion if you can't get to where you want to be with the current small domes. See some examples of domes at the bottom.

Keep me posted - this is an ongoing process of learning and sharing.

Regards,

-mike

*Some Examples of Domes*
Open vs. Closed Fitting - Which is for you?

5 mm Open-Fit Domes

Corpus Juris Civilis

Short Tulip Domes

Power Domes