

Speech intelligibility level related to cochlear implantation. A multi-factorial approach

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Abstract

The present study presents information about speech intelligibility of beneficiaries with cochlear implant. Speech intelligibility rating scale (SIR) and a questionnaire were used to collect data about speech intelligibility for 38 participants with cochlear implant aged 2.7-20.2 years old and about the possible factors speech intelligibility rate depends on. The information collected was offered by relatives or specialists who accompanied the participants of this research study in a one-week camp. The results obtained indicate a 3.78 speech intelligibility rate, 34.21% participants in this research reached the fully intelligible speech level (obtaining a speech intelligibility rate of 5), as well as the fact that speech intelligibility in Romanian language, after cochlear implantation, can be influenced by different factors such as implantation age, the number of cochlear implants (unilateral or bilateral implantation), the forms of communication used. Early implantation and a multi-factorial approach regarding speech intelligibility level are the main aspects to be considered as main future research perspectives.

Keywords

cochlear implant, implantation age, hearing age, speech intelligibility