

**POSTER SESSION I - A DATE: 29/3/2010 TIME: 8H00 - 18H00 - PANEL 141 A**

**THE KNOWLEDGE THAT PHONOAUDILOGISTS IN PORTO ALEGRE/RS HAVE ABOUT THE PHONOAUDIOLOGICAL CARE IN THE COCHLEAR IMPLANT**

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**Abstract:** Purpose: to assess the knowledge that phonoaudiologists in Porto Alegre/RS have about the phonoaudiological care in the cochlear implant and explain through bibliographic review what the literature proposes as the competence of phonoaudiologists in an interdisciplinary team for the cochlear implant. Method: 81 phonoaudiologists working in Porto Alegre, RS, from any field of Phonoaudiology, answered a questionnaire consisting of eighteen objective multiple-choice questions about the area(s) where they had worked or were working at the time, if they had been taught in college about the phonoaudiological care in the cochlear implant, or if they had taken any training program, extension or specialization courses about such device. They were also asked about the definition of cochlear implant, the criteria for prescribing it, the necessary qualification of a phonoaudiologist to work in an interdisciplinary team for the cochlear implant, and what their work would be during the preoperative, perioperative and postoperative periods. Results: the professionals interviewed did not demonstrate adequate knowledge about a phonoaudiologist's work in the cochlear implant team. The questions that accounted for the greatest number of complete or partial mistakes were the ones concerning cochlear implant candidates, side of implant, and phonoaudiological care during preoperative, perioperative and postoperative periods (electrodes activation). Conclusion: this research allowed concluding that the phonoaudiologists interviewed in Porto Alegre did not have an adequate knowledge about the phonoaudiological care in the cochlear implant. Keywords: Cochlear Implantation; Audiology; Hearing Loss; Rehabilitation of Hearing Impaired; Health Knowledge, Attitudes, Practice; Professional Competence; Professional Practice.

**POSTER SESSION I - DATE: 29/3/2010 TIME: 8H00 - 18H00 - PANEL 142**

**QUALITY OF LIFE IN ELDER CHINESE-SPEAKING ADULTS WITH HEARING IMPAIRMENT AND DO NOT USE HEARING AIDS**

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**Abstract:** General and hearing-specific health-related quality of life (HRQoL) was examined in elderly Chinese with hearing-impairment who do not use hearing aids. Ratings on the Chinese versions of the Short-Form 36 health survey (SF-36) and the Hearing Handicap Inventory for the Elderly (Screening Version) (HHIE-S) were obtained on 64 Chinese speakers. Results on the SF-36 were compared to norms obtained in a general elderly Chinese population. The relationships between HRQoL and degree of hearing impairment, and between SF-36 and HHIE-S were also evaluated. Results showed that older Chinese speakers with hearing impairment rated six of the eight scales of the SF-36 poorer, compared to a general elderly Chinese population. SF-36 ratings were poorer in listeners with average hearing greater than 40 dB HL, compared to those with better hearing. When hearing in the better ear was poorer, ratings on the Vitality scale of the SF-36 and the three scales of the HHIE-S were also reduced, after controlling for age, gender and number of coexisting chronic health problems. Ratings on SF-36 and HHIE-S did not correlate. Based on these results, we concluded that elderly Chinese who are hearing-impaired experience poorer general and hearing-specific HRQoL than the general population; and HRQoL is reduced further among those with greater hearing impairment.

**POSTER SESSION I - DATE: 29/3/2010 TIME: 8H00 - 18H00 - PANEL 143**

**STUDY OF AUDIOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROFILE OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG HEARING AIDS USERS ATTENDED IN A PUBLIC UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN SOUTHEAST BRAZIL**

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**Abstract:** Introduction: According to the Brazilian Committee on Hearing Loss in Childhood, 1 to 3 newborn per 1000 births and 2 to 4% of those from intensive care units have some hearing loss. The same Committee recommends the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening, which advocates that all children should be tested at birth or no later than three months old and, in case of hearing loss confirmed, receive educational intervention to six months, which rarely occurs. In Brazil there are 5,7 million people with hearing loss. Of these, more than 406 thousand are of school age. The Escolar Census /2005 recorded the registration of only 66.261 hearing-impaired children in Basic Education. In Brazil, in 2004, the Ministry of Health established the National Policy on Health Care Hearing. Thus, auditory rehabilitation has been secured as a whole, covering not only the diagnosis and hearing aid fitting, but also the promotion and protection, and speech therapy for both adults and children. Purpose: To analyze the audiological and educational profile of children and young hearing aids users attended in a University Hospital. Method: Were interviewed 31 parents of children and young people using hearing aids bilaterally, from 4 to 13 years, treated at the Department of Speech and Language Disorders of Federal University of São Paulo. Data were collected as age at diagnosis hearing loss, type and degree of hearing loss, probable etiology, information about therapy and scholarship. Results: The children had a mean age of 3 years and 4 months. The mean age at diagnosis of hearing loss was 1 year and 4 months. Considering the degree of hearing loss shown in the better ear, nine (29,0%) patients had mild or moderate hearing loss, ten (32,3%) had severe or moderately severe hearing loss and 12 (38,7%) had profound hearing loss. About the speech therapy, 26 (83,9%) children attend or have attended therapy and five (16,1%) were never subjected to this process. Only one (3,2%) child don't go to school. 30 (96,8%) were enrolled in the school - six (20,0%) in special schools for hearing impaired and 24 (80,0%) in regular schools. Whereas children who attend special school, five (83,3%) had profound hearing loss and one (16,7%) had severe or moderately severe. Of the 24 children who attend regular school, the distribution of degree of hearing loss was more evenly, with six (25,0%) with profound hearing loss, nine (37,5%) with severe or moderately severe and 9 (37,5%) with mild or moderate. Discussion: The diagnosis occurred over the age recommended by the Brazilian Committee on Hearing Loss in Children. However, the vast majority (96,8%), already attends the school, contrary to what was observed in the Brazilian population. Note that children with greater degrees of hearing loss usually attend special schools. Conclusion: It is necessary that the diagnosis of hearing loss occurs early, ensuring complete and appropriate hearing rehabilitation, followed by the insertion of the hearing impaired in the education system and in the society as a whole.

**POSTER SESSION I - DATE: 29/3/2010 TIME: 8H00 - 18H00 - PANEL 144**

**DEVELOPMENT OF A BROCHURE FOR HEARING AIDS HANDLING BY ELDERLY PEOPLE.**

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**Abstract:** In Brazil, the elderly population is growing significantly. It is believed that by 2025, it will be the 6th country with the largest number of elderly people. It is common to find elderly patients who resist to the use of hearing aids. They often give up when the first obstacles of fitting come, as putting and removing ear molds and/or hearing aids, to manipulating external controls, changing batteries and hygienizing components. Noting the need to help all elderly with hearing loss and worried about the consequences of a hearing loss in this population, the authors aimed to develop a program for fitting hearing aid for elderly people. Method: A bibliographical review was conducted and a working plan on how to handle a hearing aid, no matter the type: behind the ear, in-the-ear and open fit, was organized. Help from a professional publisher was received in order to take the pictures and to format the brochure. Results: A. Preparation: Observing clinical practice and literature about handling and care of hearing aids, authors wrote instructions about it. They used photographs and minimal written information, in order that this material could be used by all elderly individuals, literates or not. Authors defined what kind of materials would be: information booklet, dominoes game and cards game. These games were selected based on social life of elderly people. In the production of photographs, no trade mark has been considered, so hearing aids were randomly chosen. B. Version I: A behind-the-ear hearing aid pilot material was prepared and presented to: 1. an old person, as a volunteer; 2. a group composed by hearing aid audiologists and audiology students that work in two different hearing aid services where there is a public program for hearing aid selection and fitting in elderly people (NISAI - Penha, neighborhood of São Paulo city and University Hospital from Taubaté city). The pilot phase helped us getting volunteers and professionals' opinions and suggestions. The main suggestions were: 1. the production of the same material for the different types of hearing aids ear (behind-the-ear, in-the-ear and open fit); 2. reduction in the number of pages in the booklet; 3. increase of the size of the letter. The audiologists reported that patients felt secure and satisfied as they were able to see in a broad and clear way all the steps for handling the hearing aid. C. Version II: Following those suggestions, a new photographic production was conducted and the material development continued. As a result of the work, we draw up three handling materials regarding hearing aids models: behind-the-ear, in-the-ear, and open fit. The materials are: an informative booklet, a dominoes game and a card game Conclusion: the developed material was useful and effective for the successful process of hearing aid fitting in elderly people.

**POSTER SESSION I - DATE: 29/3/2010 TIME: 8H00 - 18H00 - PANEL 145**

**AUDITORY REHABILITATION AND LIFE QUALITY OF INDIVIDUAL HEARING AIDS (H.A.) USERS: SYSTEMATIC REVIEW**

**Authors**  
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**Abstract:** Introduction: The life quality of a person is a contemporary worry. The sensory neural hearing loss is one of the chronic diseases which causes impact on life quality. The usage of Hearing Aid (H.A.) may bring benefits and satisfaction to the user, what can be enhanced by including auditory rehabilitation programs. Objective: Investigate life quality improvement in patients that participated on auditory rehabilitation programs after H.A. fitting, throughout systematic review. Methodology: It was realized by active information searching on data bases BIREME, MEDLINE and LILACS, besides virtual libraries SciELO and PUBMED. The work investigation question was "Are there evidences of improvement on self evaluation concerning life quality on adults and elderly individuals who participated of auditory rehabilitation process after H.A. adaptation?" In order to perform the search, the following descriptors were used: Hearing Loss, Sensory Neural Hearing Loss, Auditory Assistants, Language Therapy, Orientation, Deaf People Rehabilitation, Life Quality and Result Evaluation. These descriptors were gathering and the chosen articles were selected under the theme "Auditory Rehabilitation and Life Quality". The included studies were selected according criteria proposed by ASHA at any year and written whether in Portuguese or English, with evidence level 1a, 1b, 2b, 3a, 3b and 4, on which adults and/or elderly participated, with sensory neural hearing loss and H.A. users who had been through any kind of Auditory Rehabilitation. As a result measuring, questionnaires should be included on studies. Results: Electronic search on data base resulted on 238 non duplicated studies identified, from which 216 were excluded because they didn't attend to the initial request. On totality, 22 complete articles were reviewed to verify theme coherence, considering 15 excluded. After all, 7 articles were selected. From those, 2 were classified as 1a (systematic review), 3 as 1b (randomized controlled trials, as comparison group) and 2 as 4 (studies of clinical results- all participants received intervention). All the five studies that had patient groups under intervention had a sample greater than 30 participants, from which 4 included adults and elderly and 3 only elderly. Concerning H.A. usage, in 3 of the studies that involved intervention groups, only new users participated, 1 with experienced users and another with new and experienced users. Regarding sort of intervention, 3 of the studies evaluated the advising effect, 2 evaluated orientation groups. Concerning systematic reviews included, one investigated the improvement of communicative skills after auditory training and another verified if the advising and communication strategies improved benefit/satisfaction with H.A. and decreased participation restriction. Conclusion: Few studies have been concerning auditory rehabilitation gather quality criteria as patient choice through randomizing or the presence of group control. On this study it was observable the usage of various nomenclatures on Rehabilitation area. This study identified that the theme must be better explored by researchers of the area.

**POSTER SESSION I - DATE: 29/3/2010 TIME: 8H00 - 18H00 - PANEL 146**

**EFFECTS OF THE ACCLIMATIZATION ON NEW LINEAR AND NON-LINEAR HEARING AIDS USERS**

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**Abstract:** Introduction: The progress from the hearing aids technology aims to provide the reestablishment of the acoustic stimulus with the best quality. Technologically, the hearing aids can be classified into linear and non-linear. To the start of the use, the individual enters into a period called perceptual acclimatization. Purpose: To verify, on new users, the influence of the

