

Case Study

THE IMPORTANCE OF ACCURATE BEHAVIOURAL TESTING IN INFANT HEARING AID FITTINGS

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Asymmetrical Drop in Hearing

- Infant identified from universal newborn hearing screening programme
- Bilateral refer on AABR with 35 dBnHL click stimulus
- Family history of hearing loss
 - Maternal grandfather has loss from early childhood, now has a CI
 - However father convinced hearing loss was due to screening not being done properly

Initial Diagnostic Testing

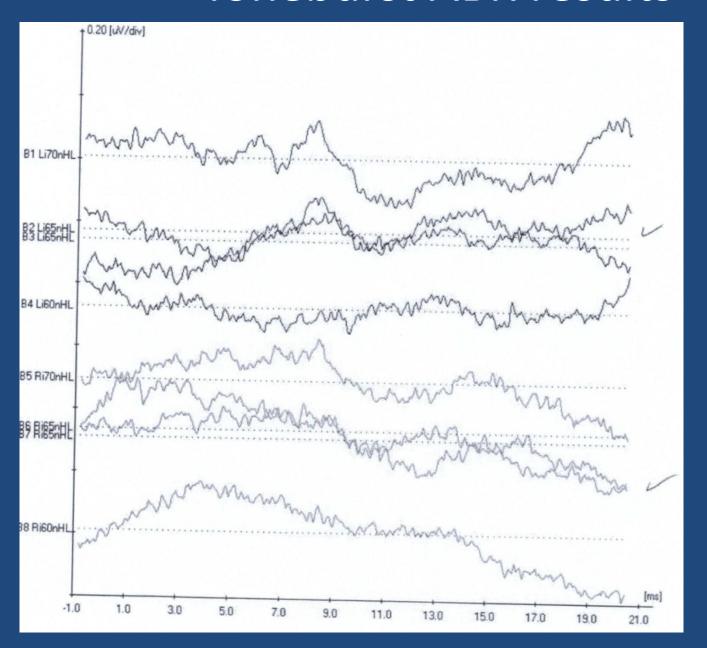
• 4 ABR appointments required as baby restless, light sleeper

Type A tympanograms (1000 Hz probe tone)

 Absent ipsilateral acoustic reflexes (1000 Hz probe tone) using broad band noise stimulus

Absent DPOAEs bilaterally

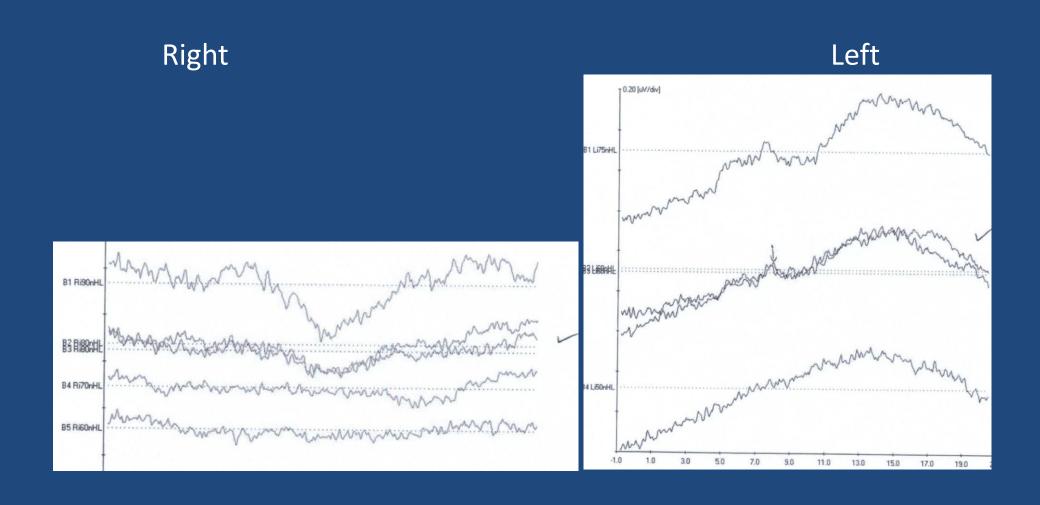
Toneburst ABR results



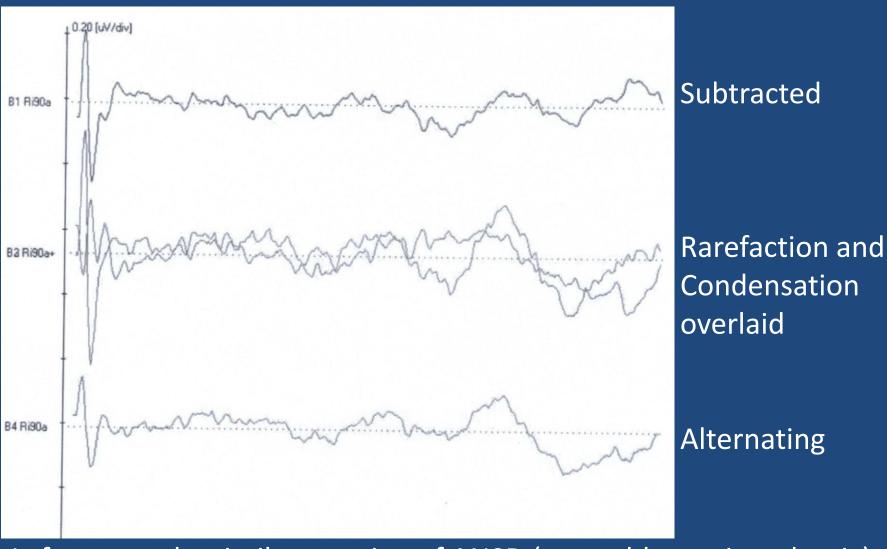
Left 2kHz 70 dBnHL

Right 2kHz 70 dBnHL

4kHz toneburst ABR results

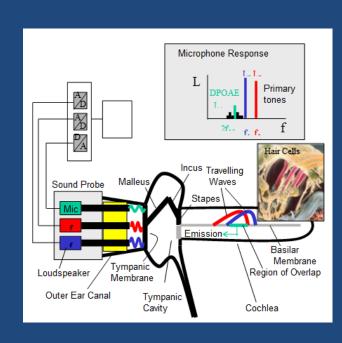


Right click (80 dBnHL) ABR

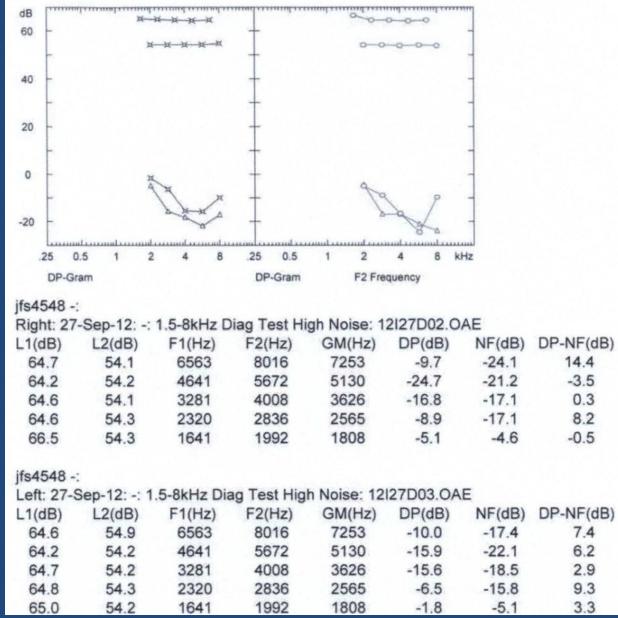


Left ear results similar, no sign of ANSD (no cochlear microphonic)

Absent DPOAEs in both ears



http://www.oae.it/old/guest_editorials/2004/01_2004.html



Summary of results from diagnostic audiology appointments (NR=no response)

| Toneburst ABR | 500 Hz | 1000 Hz | 2000 Hz | 4000 Hz | | | | |
|-----------------|--|---------|---------|---------|--|--|--|--|
| Left AC | 65 | 65 | 70 | 70 | | | | |
| Right AC | 65 | 65 | 70 | 85 | | | | |
| BC Left & Right | NR 60 | | NR 60 | | | | | |
| Click ABR | | | | | | | | |
| Left & Right AC | Small wave V present; no evidence of ANSD | | | | | | | |
| Tympanometry | Type A tympanograms Absent ipsilateral acoustic reflexes | | | | | | | |
| DPOAEs | Absent left and right whenever tested | | | | | | | |

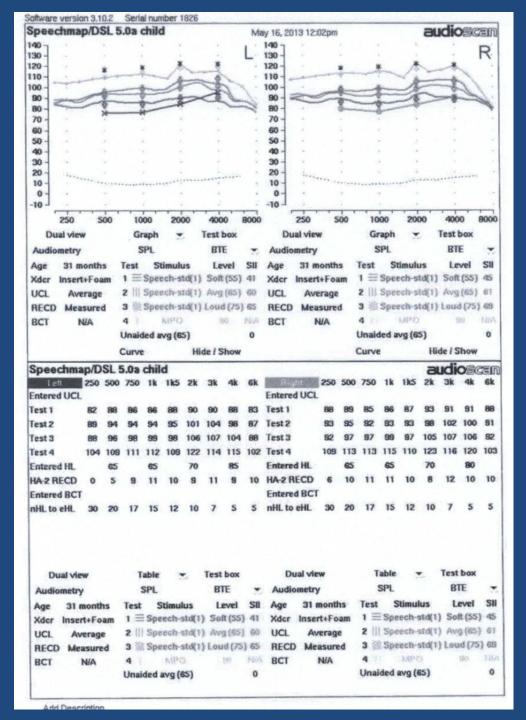
Hearing Aid Fitting

Fitting at approximately 4-5 months of age

 Parents wanted 2nd opinion, took child to United States to the House Ear Institute (who agreed with our results)

Bilateral Phonak Bolero Q70 M13





Example of real ear measures

Measured RECDs

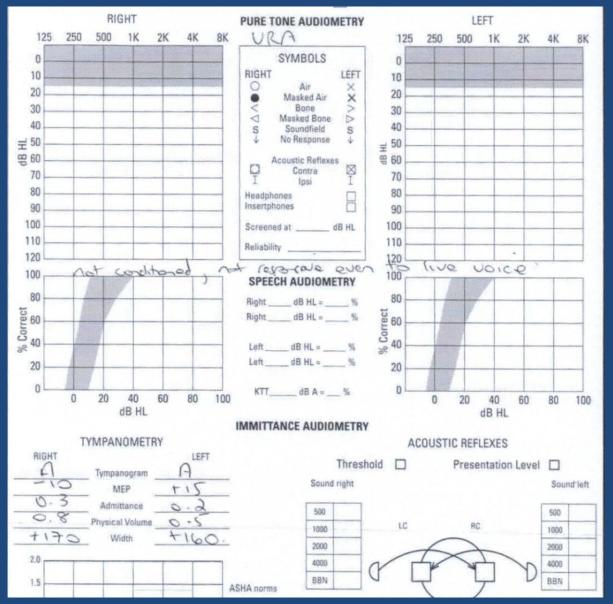
Standard speech input at soft, average and loud and MPO check with 90 dB signal

DSL 5.0 fitting method

Ongoing testing and monitoring

- Child receiving regular Auditory Verbal Therapy (AVT) sessions, parents were reasonably happy with his progress
- Very good hearing aid use, highly motivated parents
- Behavioural testing using VRA (Visual Reinforcement Audiometry) began at about 6 months of age in order to check progress with amplification and monitor behavioural thresholds

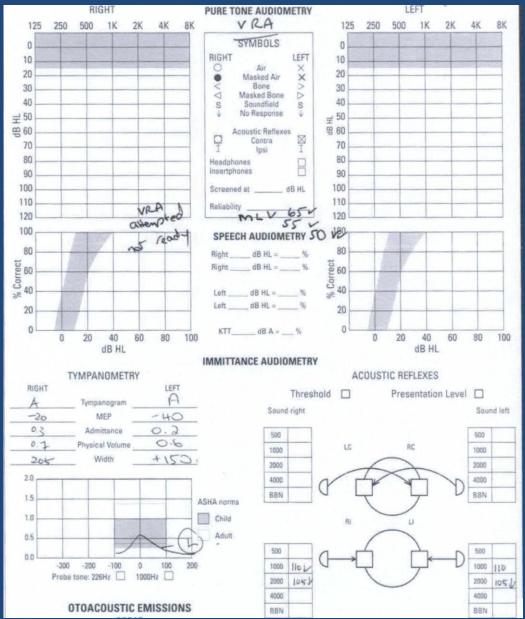
VRA at 8 months



"not conditioned, not responsive even to live voice"



VRA at 9 months

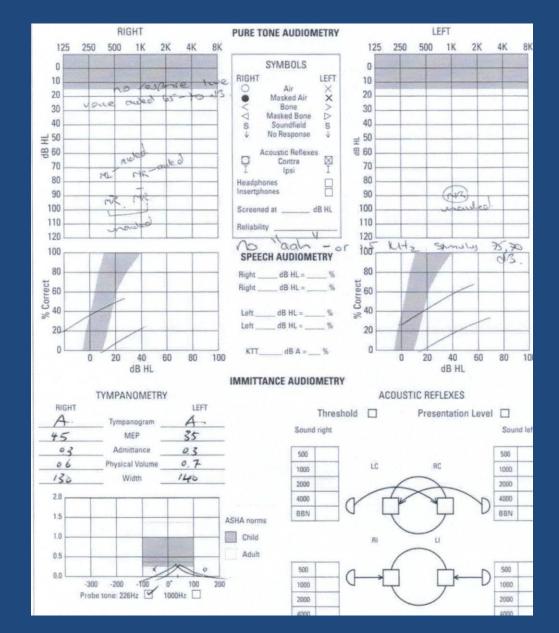


Still not ready for any frequency specific testing

Monitored live voice testing at 50dBHL?

Not very consistent with ABR thresholds

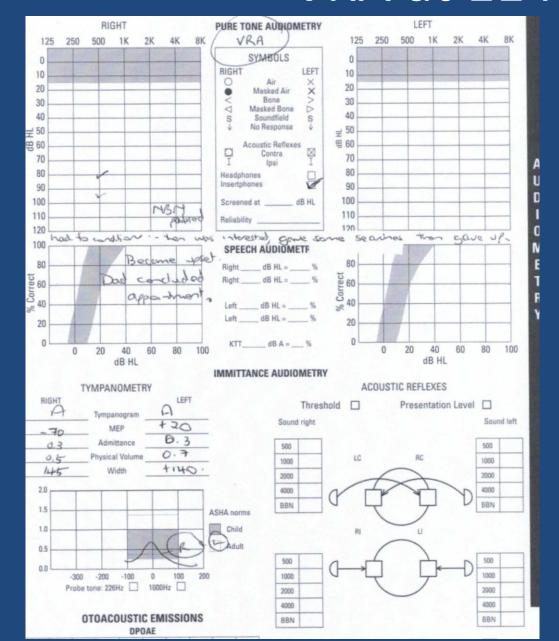
VRA at 10 months



Parents and audiologists getting concerned over lack of responsiveness to sounds when being tested

Everyone getting a bit stressed

VRA at 11 months

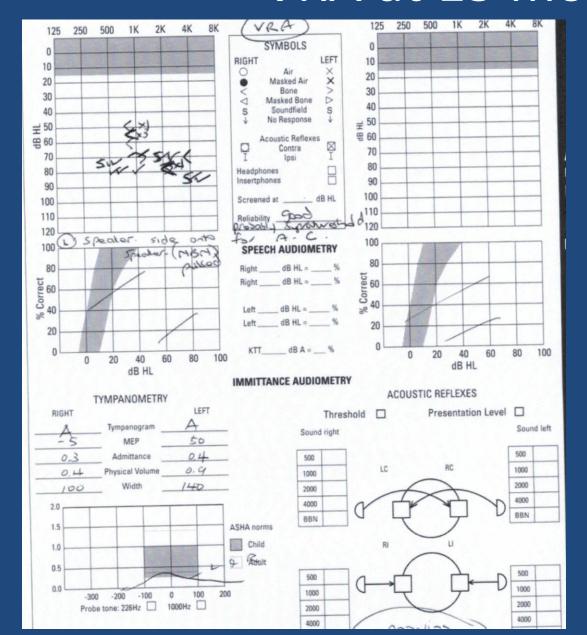


"Had to condition, then was interested, gave some searches, then gave up"

"child became upset, dad concluded appointment"

Discussions begun about repeating ABR

VRA at 15 months



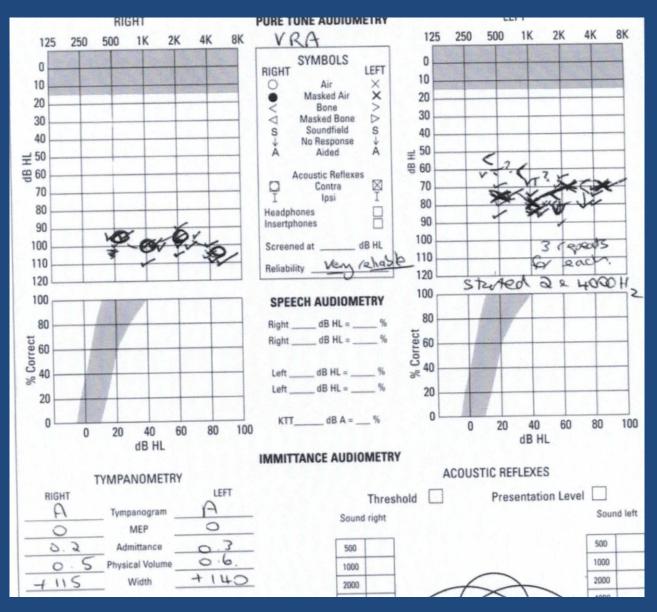
4 appointments later

Finally started doing VRA

Good reliability, but thought they might be supra-threshold



VRA at 16 months



Very reliable
Happy to tolerate
inserts
Now unexpected
asymmetry
apparent

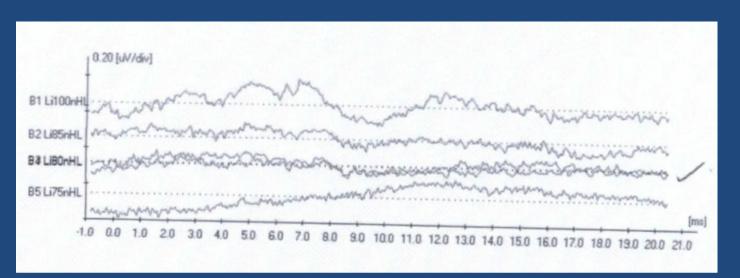
Everyone including parents want to have repeat ABR to check on thresholds

Cortical Evoked Potential Testing

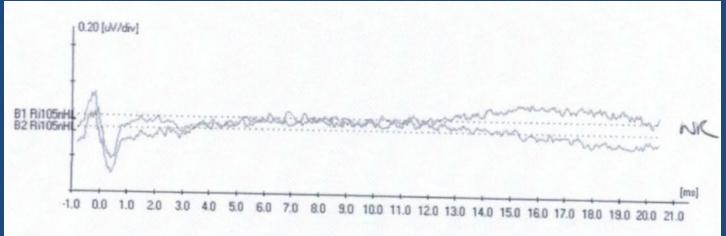
 Child was non-compliant and session abandoned, parents very keen to repeat ABR



GA (General anaesthetic) ABR

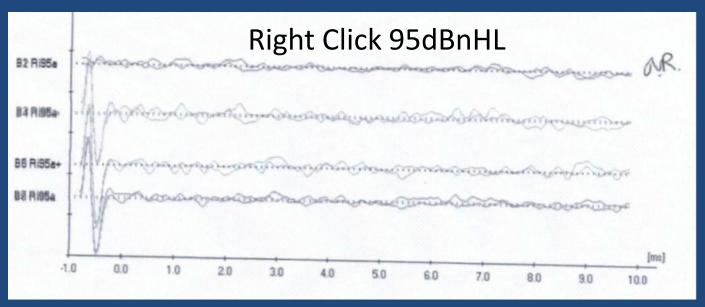


Left ear 4kHz 80 dBnHL (response at 70 dBnHL at initial test)



Right ear NR at 105 dBnHL (response at 85 dBnHL previously)

GA ABR



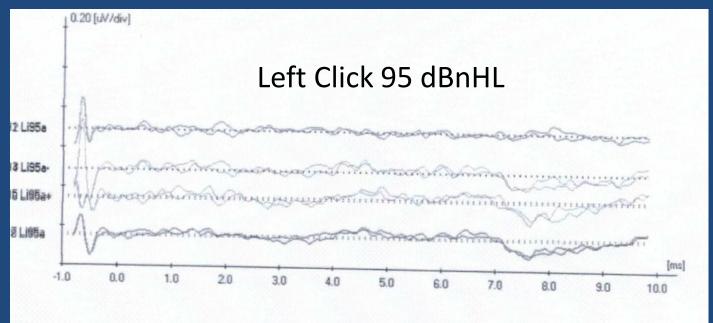
Subtracted

Rarefaction

Condensation

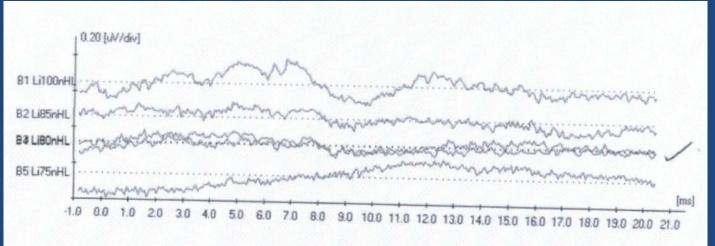
Alternating

Right NR

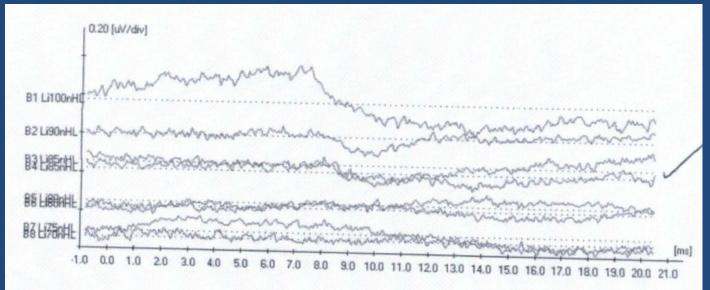


Left Small wave V at 95 dBnHL No CM present

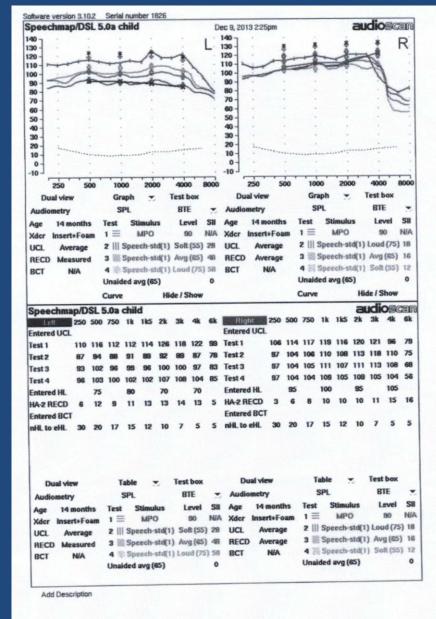
GA ABR



Left 4kHz 80 dBnHL (previous test threshold=70)



Left 2kHz 85 dBnHL (previous test threshold=70)



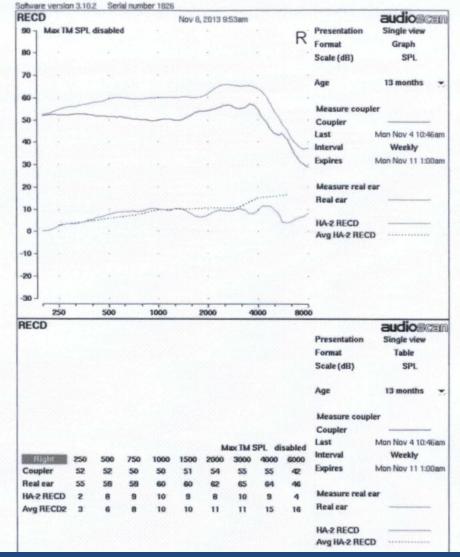
(R). Maida. IX UP

Real Ear Measures

Re-fitted for right profound loss

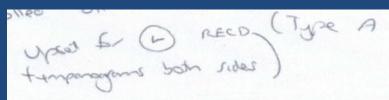
Naida IX UP

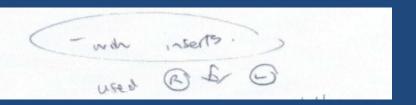




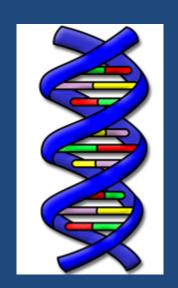
Measured RECDs







Confirmed Genetic Cause of Hearing Loss



Detected mutations

| Sample no: | Gene | Exon | Nucleotide change | Amino acid change | Genotyping results | Zygosity | Type of variation | Verified by sequencing |
|------------|--------------------|------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| HF0890 | GJB2 (Connexin2 6) | ex2 | c.283G>A | p.Val95Met | AG/CT | HET | Mut | + |
| HF0890 | GJB2 (Connexin2 6) | ex2 | c.35delG | p.Gly12fs | GT/AC | HET | Mut | + |

Current progress

 Fitted with a cochlear implant in his right ear and continues to wear his hearing aid in his left ear

 Doing very well and age appropriate for speech and language development

 Very robust cortical evoked potentials present





