

Elizabeth Walker, PhD, CCC-SLP/A 5th Latin America Pediatric Conference







Acknowledgements









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- Introduction to study
 - Preschool-age
 - Language outcomes
 - Auditory access
 - Aided audibility
 - Hearing aid use
- School-age
 - Remote microphones
 and language outcomes
 - Social cognition
 - Language and Literacy

The OCHL study is a multicenter, longitudinal study focusing on outcomes of children with mild-severe hearing loss

SUBJECTS	TOTAL
НН	317
NH	117



Study participants: Inclusion criteria

6 months to 7 years at entry

English primary language

No major secondary disabilities

No cochlear implants

Permanent mild to severe *bilateral* hearing loss

What guided the research goals of this multicenter study?



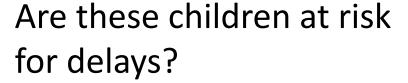






New generation of children who are hard of hearing

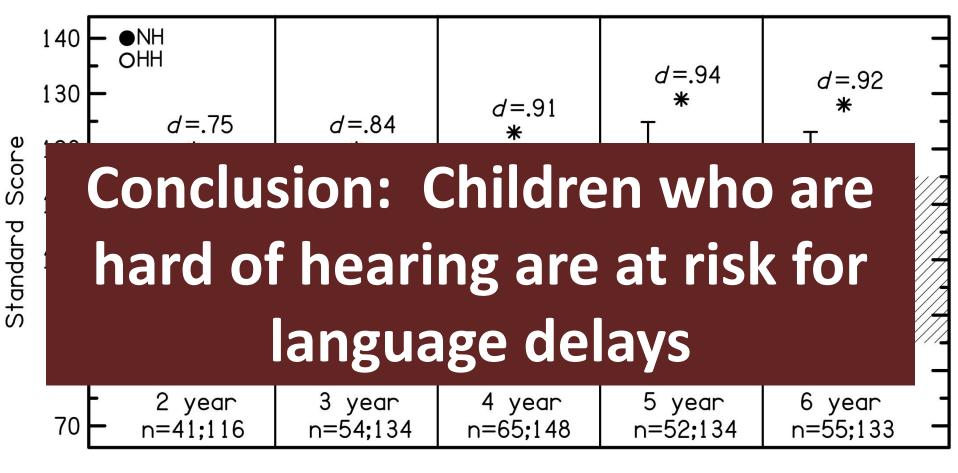






What factors support success?

How do young children who are hard of hearing compare to hearing children on language?

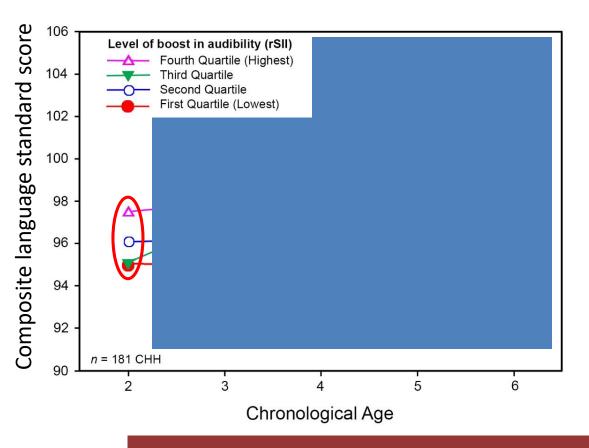


^{*} *p* < .0001

What factors are associated with variability in outcomes?



Aided Audibility Contributes to Language GROWTH

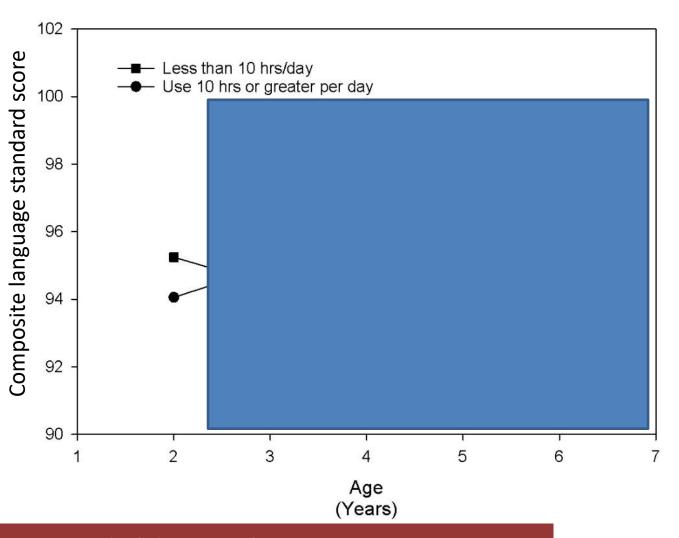


- Quartiles of Aided
 Audibility, after
 controlling for
 degree of loss
- Benefit holds for mild to severe degrees of hearing loss

Conclusion: Children who receive the best access to speech from hearing aids show steeper growth in language skills

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Consistent
Hearing Aid
Use
Contributes
to Language
Growth



Conclusion: Children who wear HAs more than 10 hours/day show steeper growth in language skills than children wearing HAs less than 10 hours/day

Tomblin et al., *E&H* (2015)

10

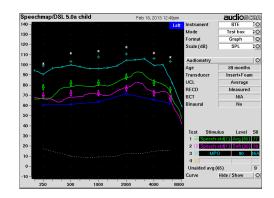
What are the clinical implications?

Children with mild to severe hearing loss are at risk for delays in language acquisition

Protective factors include:



timely detection and intervention services



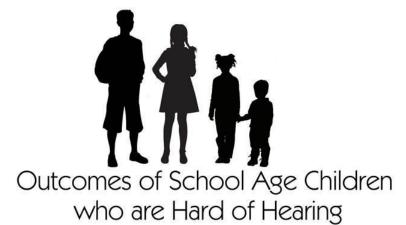
Hearing aids that are fit to prescriptive targets



early and consistent use of hearing aids

Where are we now?





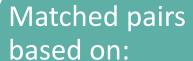
Outcomes of Children with Hearing Loss

a study of children ages birth to six

Do children who have access to personal remote microphone systems at home have better language skills?

Curran, Walker, Roush, and Spratford, under review, *JSLHR*

Participants



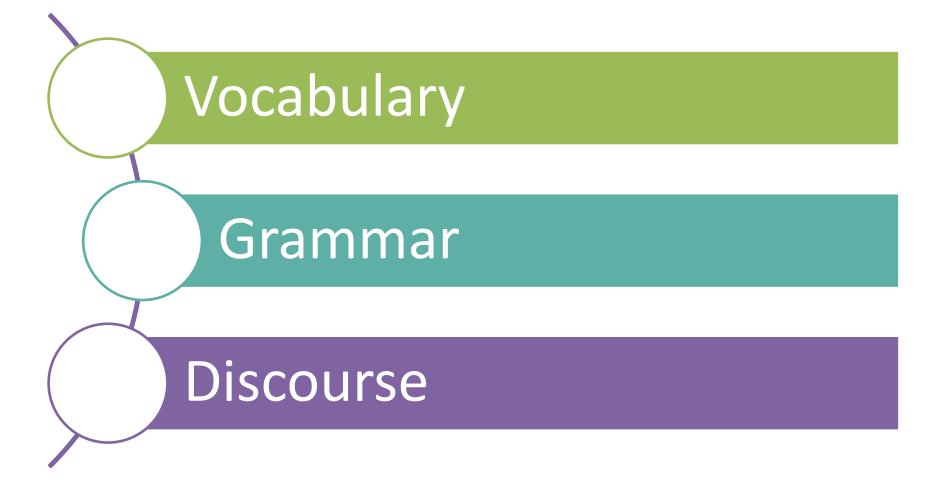
- Pure tone average
- Testing site
- Maternal education

No remote mic (n = 77)

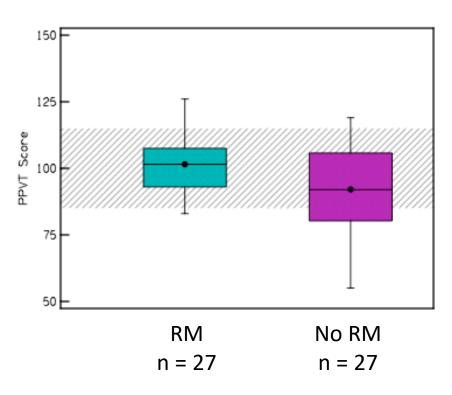
Yes remote mic (n = 55)

27 pairs

Language outcomes at age 5

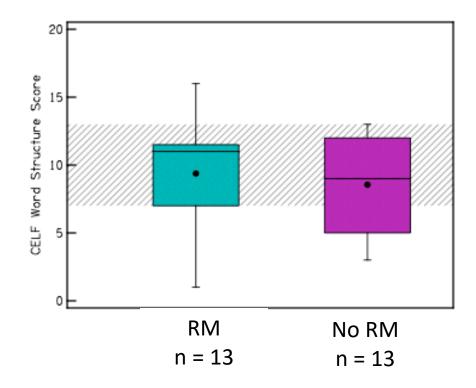


Results: Vocabulary and Grammar



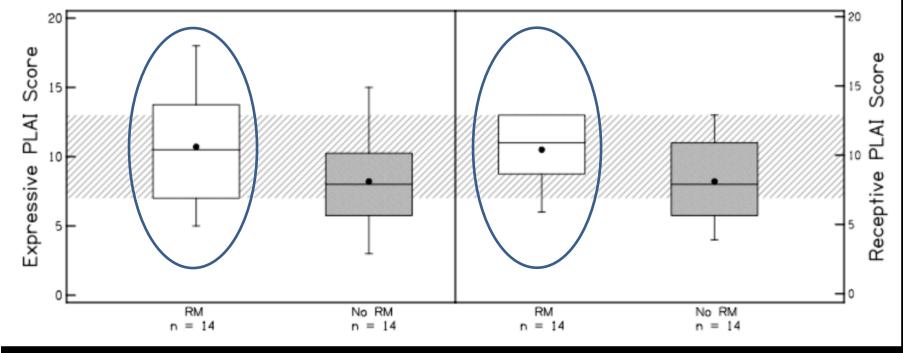
Curran, Walker, Roush, and Spratford, under review, JSLHR

No significant differences between groups



Results: Discourse

d = .57 d = 0.98



Curran, Walker, Roush, and Spratford, under review. *JSLHR*

Clinical Implications of Remote Microphone study

- Improved auditory access via a personal remote microphone may support higher-level language skills
- Why? To speculate....
 - Caregivers talk more frequently at a distance when using remote mic system at home, compared to no remote mic (Benitez-Barrera et al., 2018)
 - Greater access to distant speech may enhance discourse skills due to increased frequency of exposure to conversation

Social cognition, language and literacy outcomes







JSLHR

Research Article

False Belief Development in Children Who Are Hard of Hearing Compared With Peers With Normal Hearing

Elizabeth A. Walker,^a Sophie E. Ambrose,^b Jacob Oleson,^a and Mary Pat Moeller^b

What is False Belief?

- Awareness that
 other people have
 feelings, thoughts,
 beliefs, dreams that
 are different from
 one's own
- Allows us to take the perspective of others (communication)



Astington, 1993; Wellman, 2002

Participants

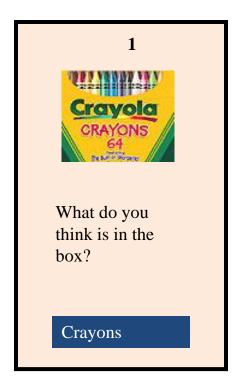
Five year olds

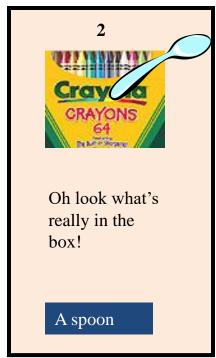
- 142 children with mild-tosevere HL
- 57 children with normal hearing

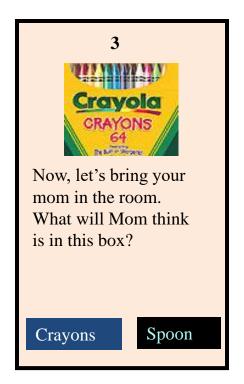
Second graders

- 142 children with mild-tosevere HL
- 57 children with normal hearing

False Belief



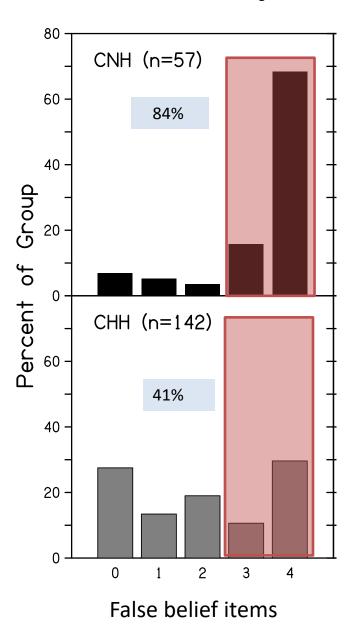




False Belief Results: 5 years

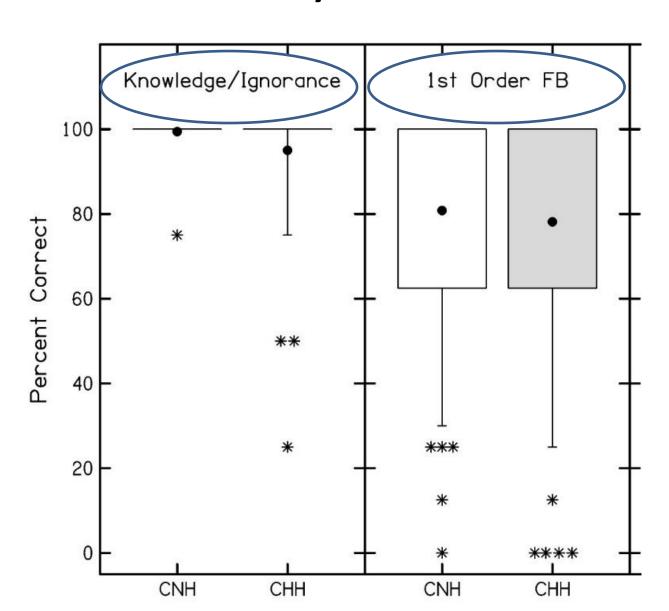
 $X^2 = 30.34, p < .001$

Hearing children outperform children with hearing loss at age 5



False Belief Results – 8 years

No significant differences between groups



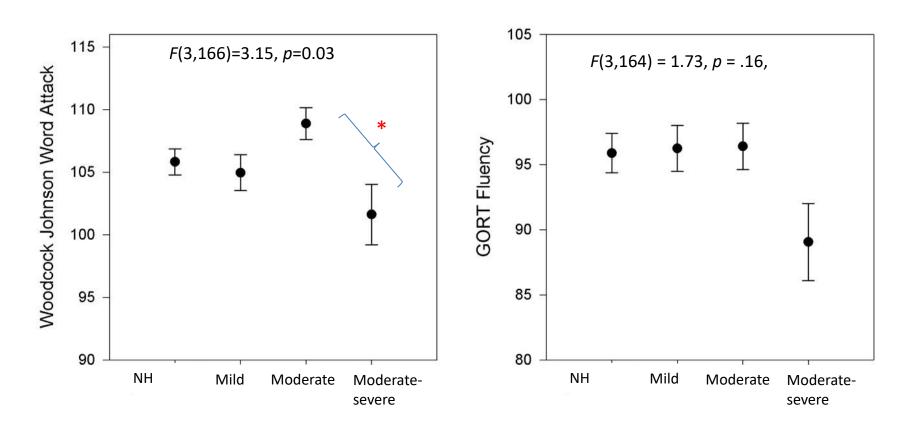
Language and Literacy Outcomes at age 8

Reading decoding

Reading comprehension

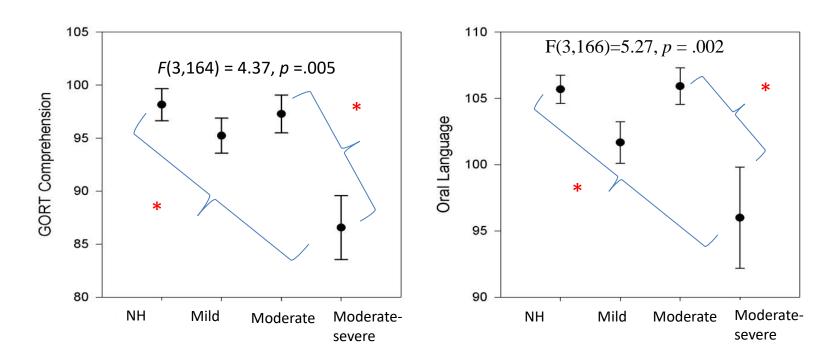
Language comprehension

Results: Literacy at 8 years



Decoding skills (reading words) similar in children with and without hearing loss

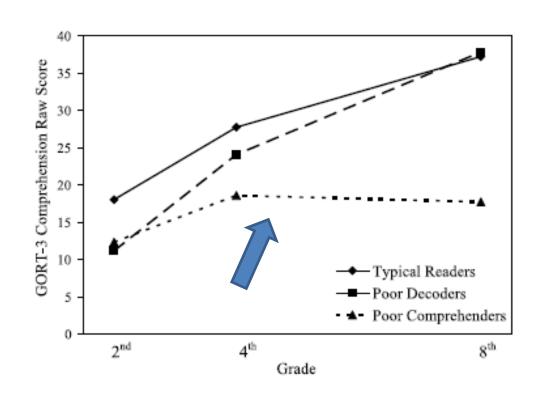
Results: Literacy and Language at 8 years



- Children with Moderate-severe HL poorer than children with normal hearing and children with moderate HL in reading comprehension.
- Oral language outcomes are similar to reading comprehension.
- Children with Mild and Moderate hearing loss show resilience in reading and oral language (but note pattern).

Clinical Implications

- We see profile of poor comprehension in reading and language.
- Hearing children with language impairments show same profile and are often not identified as being delayed until after age 10 (Catts et al. 2012).
- Where will these <u>children</u> who are hard of hearing be by age 10 and beyond?



Clinical Implications

- The resilience of the children with moderate hearing loss relative to the mild and moderate/severe...
 - Is this a point at which the interventions (hearing aids and aural rehab.) are effective and/or better utilized?
- Children with moderate-severe hearing loss show persistent delays, suggesting need for improvements in interventions.

OCHL Posters...now in Spanish on www.ochlstudy.org!



iTU HACES LA DIFFRENCIA!

Resultados de la investigación de niños que tienen pérdida auditiva



EL USO DEL APARATO AUDITIVO REAFIRMA EL DESARROLLO DEL LENGUAJE



El uso de los aparatos auditivos al menos 10 horas al día le avuda a los niños a aprender el lenguaje más rápido que los niños que no los usan de manera consistente, por lo cual es más probable que desarrollen un lenguaje apropiado para su edad. Los niños que usan sus aparatos auditivos menos de 10 horas al día aprenden el lenguaje a un ritmo más lento y pueden atrasarse.



sobre qué tan bien escucha



Pida ayuda si es difícil loarar que su niño se coloque los aparatos auditivos.



los aparatos auditivos para cerciorarse de que tenga

EL LENGUAJE DE LOS NIÑOS SE VE INFLUENCIADO POR LO QUE USTED DICE

Los niños aprenden mejor cuando usted les habla sobre algo en lo que están enfocados. Cuando los niños más pequeños hagan gestos o produzcan sonidos, hábleles sobre lo que están mirando. Cuando los niños más grandes hablen, reformule lo que dijeron usando frases un poco más largas.



lenguaje y las habilidades habla sobre lo que usted y los demás están pensando. Use palabras como recuerda, cree y siente



Los niños se benefician del lenguaje que es un a usar. ¡No simpliflaue mucho lo que diga!



Para que su niño escuche y aprenda más fácilmente niño v limite el uso de la TV







APRENDA MÁS EN WWW.OCHLSTUDY.ORG



¡Los aparatos auditivos importan!

Resultados de la investigación de niños que tienen pérdida auditiva



El uso de aparatos auditivos reafirma el desarrollo del lenguaje.

Habilidades gramaticales de niños con pérdido auditiva leve y de niños con audición normal.



Los niños con pérdida auditiva que usan continuamente los aparatos auditivos tienen habilidades gramaticales y vocabulario similar a los niños con audición normal. Los niños que usan inconsistentemente los aparatos auditivos. independientemente del nivel de pérdida auditiva, están en riesgo de adquirir habilidades limitadas de lenauaie.

Si los niños usan los aparatos auditivos por lo menos 10 horas al día, son más propensos para aprender el lenguaje más rápido y de tener habilidades de lenguaje adecuadas a su edad para cuando entran a la escuela. ¡Sea persistente con los niños pequeños en motivar el uso de los aparatos auditivos!

Beneficio de los aparatos auditivos = acceso al habla. La cantidad de beneficio, o acceso a los sonidos del habla, depende de la audición de su niño y en la forma en la que los audiólogos programan los aparatos auditivos. El mayor beneficio se logra cuando

los audiólogos ajustan los aparatos auditivos de acuerdo con la pérdida de audición personal del niño, usando medidas de oído real mediante la verificación de sonda microfónica.





Hable con el audiólogo de su niño acerca de que tan bien aparatos auditivos



Realize revisiones diarias de los aparatos auditivos para cerciorarse de la buena calidad



Manténgase cerca de su niño v límite el uso de la TV otros ruidos en su casa y asi sea más fácil para que su niño escuche y aprenda.



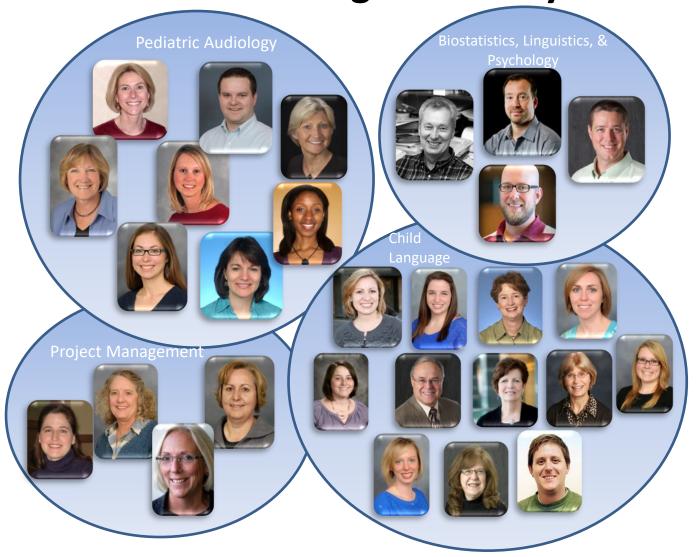






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Celebrating ten years of the Outcomes of Children with Hearing Loss study!





Special thanks to the families and children who have faithfully participated in these studies!

Gracias!

