# Bimodal Hearing: Technological advancements and patient benefits 

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## Continuous Relaxation of Indication Criteria

- 1995: profound hearing loss

- 2000: max. 30\% monosyllables

- 2008: max. 50\% monosyllables
- 2010: max. 60\% monosyllables with EAS


## Development of Bimodal Population



## Advantages of Bimodal Hearing



Ching, T. Y. C. , Incerti, P. , Hill, M.: Binaural benefits for adults who use hearing aids and cochlear implants in opposite ears. Ear and hearing 2004;25;1:9-21

## Benefit of Bimodal Hearing



## Low-freq. Hearing Loss vs. Bimodal Benefit



## Low-freq. Hearing Loss vs. Bimodal Benefit



## Modified Fitting Formula for Hearing Aids



Büchner A, Schüssler M, Battmer RD, Stöver T, Lesinski-Schiedat A, Lenarz T: Impact of low-frequency hearing. Audiol Neurootol. 2009;14 Suppl 1:8-13

## Adaptive Phonak Digital Bimodal Fitting Formula

Automatic calculation steps of the 1-click procedure:


## Speech Understanding in Multitalker Babble

- List, adaptive, $50 \%$ correct SRT
- Noise, 65dB, IFFM
- $\mathrm{S}_{0} \mathrm{~N}_{\mathrm{HA}}, \mathrm{S}_{0} \mathrm{~N}_{\mathrm{Cl}}, \mathrm{S}_{0} \mathrm{~N}_{+/-90}$
- Commercial AGC (syllabic) vs. aligned AGC with slow time constants

Improvement of speech understanding by 0.3 to 3.3 dB in competing talker situations through aligned AGC settings.


## Adaptive Phonak Digital Bimodal Fitting Formula



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## Bimodal Fitting Formula \& Naida Link HA

- OISa, adaptive, $50 \%$ correct SRT
- Noise, 65dB, IFFM
- $\mathrm{S}_{0} \mathrm{~N}_{+-90^{\circ}}$
- Clinical setting vs. bimodal fitting formula vs. loudness balanced fitting

Improvement of speech understanding by 1.3 dB with bimodal fitting formula immediately after fitting.


## Bimodal Hearing Solution: Naída Link HA

- New Phonak Naída Link hearing aid specially designed to work with the Naída CI Q70 and Q90
- Distinctive Bimodal Fitting Formula
- Shared Front-End Processing and Automation
- Shared Controls (QuickSync)
- Bimodal wireless solutions
- Ear-to-Ear Audio Sharing (Binaural VoiceStream Technology ${ }^{\top M}$ )



## Shared Front-end and Processing



Both devices process sound in the same way. Many features are automated.

## Shared Front-end and Processing




## Bilateral StereoZoom (Binaural Beamformer)

- OISa, adaptive, $50 \%$ correct SRT
- Noise, 65dB, stationary
- $\mathrm{S}_{0} \mathrm{~N}_{45^{\circ}-360^{\circ}}$
- BTE mic vs. T-Mic vs. UltraZoom vs. StereoZoom

Improvement of speech understanding by 5.5 dB with StereoZoom.


## Bimodal StereoZoom (Binaural Beamformer)

- OISa, adaptive, $50 \%$ correct SRT
- Noise, 65dB, OlNoise
- $\mathrm{S}_{0} \mathrm{~N}_{+/-45^{\circ}}$
- Omni vs. UltraZoom vs. StereoZoom



## ZoomControl: Ear to Ear audio streaming



MHH

## Bimodal ZoomControl (Streaming of Audio Signal)

- OISa, adaptive, $50 \%$ correct SRT
- Noise, 65dB, OlNoise
- $\mathrm{S}_{\mathrm{HA}} \mathrm{N}_{\mathrm{Cl}}$
- Omni vs. UltraZoom vs. ZoomControl



## Bimodal ZoomControl (Streaming of Audio Signal)




## Bimodal ZoomControl (Streaming of Audio Signal)



## Summary

- Significant increase in performance in adverse listening conditions when using a second hearing device
- Group of unilateral Cl users with aidable contralateral hearing continuously growing: special bimodal hearing solutions required
- Aligned "one click" fitting procedure does give at least comparable hearing performance and is extremely time saving
- Wireless streaming technologies (StereoZoom, ZoomControl) lead to additional benefits in speech perception outcomes in challenging listening situations and work across all device combinations

