

AUDITORY PROCESSING DISORDER (APD)

WHY CAN'T MY CHILD LISTEN?



'APD & Listening Difficulties' Information sessions for Parents, Caregivers and Professionals, 2012

- how the ear and central auditory system works
- behaviours associated with APD
- how auditory processing is assessed and APD diagnosed
- strategies to assist you and your child at home and therapy options

Limited Seats, Bookings Essential – \$40.00 per person, \$60 per couple (Tea & Coffee provided)

Adelaide: February 6, May 4.
Glenelg North: March 20, June 13

Murray Bridge

Tuesday visits, first half 2012 (Ph 8410 2900)

Bridge Clinic, Standen Street, Murray Bridge

January 24	February 14	March 6 and 27
April 17	May 8 and 29	June 19

Captions on YouTube

To make videos on YouTube accessible to people who are deaf or hearing-impaired, Google has technology called 'auto-timing' that automatically brings text captions to many videos. Although the technology can insert captions only for English-language speech, Google is giving users the choice of using its automatic translation system to read the captions in 51 languages.

ADELAIDE Hearing CONSULTANTS

Right hear. Right now.

Office hours: 9am–5pm Monday to Friday.
(Open between 1 & 2pm, by arrangement)
www.adelaidehearingconsultants.com.au



APPOINTMENTS

Please ring for an appointment. We might send you some questionnaires to complete and bring so we can assess your needs more thoroughly.

OUR ADMIN STAFF

Virginia is on Reception in the city office;
Tracey and Sharon are on Reception in Glenelg.

CLIENT FEEDBACK



EARtrak is an independent survey which explores how much our clients use their hearing aids, what benefits they get from them and how satisfied they are with their hearing aids and with our services.



Our latest EARtrak survey earned us a '5 star rating' for

Independent Validation of Client Outcomes
Continuing Commitment to Quality Improvement
Client Satisfaction with Hearing Improvement
Client Satisfaction with Hearing Aid Performance
Client Satisfaction with Service Delivery

We welcome your feedback on all aspects of our service to you. We also welcome referrals of your friends and neighbours.

Feel free to call us and ask any questions about hearing

"If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please ask us to remove your name from our mailing list".

INSIDE

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Hearing Technology
Research
Conferences
Indigenous Hearing Health
Pensioners'/Veterans' Services
Tinnitus
(Central) Auditory Processing
Murray Bridge

ADELAIDE HEARING CONSULTANTS PTY LTD

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The clinicians at Adelaide Hearing Consultants provide professional, independent hearing services. We offer assessment and management of hearing loss, Auditory Processing disorder, tinnitus annoyance and child language.

OUR CLINICAL STAFF

Dr Judith Boswell
Audiologist/Director
BAppSci, DipAud, MS, PhD FASA-CCP

Mr David May
Audiologist/Director
BTeach, BSpecEd, MAud MASA-CCP

Ms Holly Veale
Audiologist/Speech Pathologist
BSpPath, Maud MASA-CCP

Ms Christy Akins
Audiologist
B InfoSystems, GradCertMngmt, MEd, MAud

Mrs Nichole Govier
Speech Pathologist
BSpeechPath, AssDipManagement

Mrs Liz Willis
Educational Consultant
BTeach, BEd, GradCertSpecEd

Right hear. Right now.

the newsletter of Adelaide Hearing Consultants

Edition 1, 2012

FROM THE DIRECTORS



Welcome to our first newsletter for 2012. As usual, this one offers information about our staff and services and news about hearing loss, new technology and research updates.

Staff: We start the year without Joanne Sahhar. Jo left our employment at the end of 2011 to get married and is moving back to Melbourne with her husband, Alex. We wish Joanne and Alex all the best.

New Assessment for Six-Year-Olds: We routinely assess and provide therapy for children from seven years of age with Auditory Processing disorders. We are often asked to assess younger children, also,

but our Auditory Processing tests are not valid for this age group. Instead, we are introducing a 'Listening and Learning Assessment' to identify what interventions or services might benefit a six-year-old who is struggling at school. Liz Willis, our Educational Consultant, will provide these assessments at our Glenelg North office and Nichole Govier, our Speech Pathologist, will be offering phonological (speech sound) awareness therapy for eligible children.

Same-day Hearing Aid Repairs: In January, our support staff received advanced training in how to find and remedy minor faults in hearing aids and how to identify and change tubing, domes, receivers and wax protectors. If you have a problem with your hearing aid, you can drop it off at either clinic to be checked. Minor repairs can be performed the same day, major repairs will still take 7–10 days. For private clients, there is a charge for minor and major repairs for devices out of warranty and for all tubing, domes, wax protectors and new ear-moulds. Repair costs for subsidised clients (pensioners, veterans) are covered by their annual Battery and Maintenance agreement.

COMING EVENTS

A SPECIAL SEMINAR FOR TEACHERS AND PROFESSIONALS

'Managing Auditory Processing & Listening Difficulties in the Classroom'

Saturday April 28, 9–00am – 1.00pm

Marion Hotel Seminar Room

Cost: \$80 per person, includes refreshments

Call Glenelg North office to register

PHONAK life is on

NEW for 6 year olds

'Listening and Learning Assessment'
Call Glenelg North office for more information

FREE DEMONSTRATION

'TV Listening Devices'

(more information on page 2)

Adelaide: Monday April 16

Glenelg North: Tuesday April 17



HEARING TECHNOLOGY

How CAN I HEAR BETTER?

TV Listening Devices

In November, we had two very successful afternoons at which Guide Dogs SA Hearing Services personnel demonstrated a range of TV listening devices. We are holding two more sessions in April 2012. These sessions are free to our clients and their friends and neighbours, but you will need to call and arrange a 20 minute appointment for one of the dates, below. (The Dept. of Veterans' Affairs subsidises the cost of TV listening devices for some clients).

Adelaide: Monday afternoon, April 16 Glenelg North: Tuesday afternoon, April 17

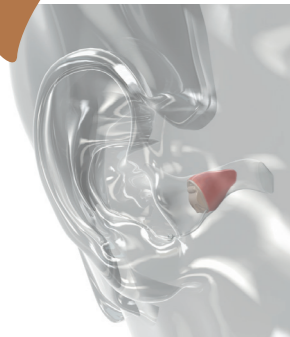
"Thank you for arranging the TV receiver. I'm hearing beautiful background music that I never knew was there. It's a great product & I'm not annoying my neighbour any more."
(a satisfied client)

Instruments For People With Tinnitus And Hearing Loss

People with hearing loss can now get added relief from their tinnitus, as well as hearing better, by wearing a small ear-level device which combines a hearing aid and a sound generator. Siemens and GN ReSound both have new devices which create a pleasant, low-level background sound which acts as an aid to tinnitus habituation and relaxation, or which might even mask your tinnitus sounds. Contact your Audiologist for more information. (Good news for DVA clients about Neuromonics Tinnitus Treatment - see page 3)

It's NEW and very exciting!

Phonak nano is more than just a tiny hearing aid. It is custom crafted to fit entirely in your ear canal, using computer-aided design and the latest generation of advanced materials.



RESEARCH

Musicians and Listening-in-Noise Musicians often demonstrate better auditory working memory and/or attention; they are particularly good at extracting sounds of interest from various sound-scapes. It seems that the extent of musical training also influences their ability to follow speech in background noise. Based on brainstem responses acquired in the presence of speech babble, musicians tend to experience less distraction from background noise than do non-musicians. This suggests that musical training and expertise may be effective training strategies for listening better in background noise. (Anderson S, Kraus N. (2011) Neural Encoding of Speech and Music—Implications for Hearing Speech in Noise. Seminars in Hearing 32(2))

Second-hand Smoke (SHS) Causes Hearing Loss in Children and Teens Second-hand smoke may result in a nearly two-fold increase in permanent hearing loss in adolescents, suggesting that monitoring and periodic hearing testing may be required in this population. In addition, repeated ear infections are more common in the nearly 60% of children exposed to SHS in the United States. (Arch Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg. 2011; 137).



How CAN I PREVENT HEARING LOSS?

CONFERENCES

February, Hobart: the biannual three-day seminar of the Australian Association of Audiologists in Private Practice (AAAPP) – a National group of professionals from independently-owned audiology practices. Judith is attending.

March, Adelaide: the annual National conference of the Australian Society of Otolaryngologists (ear, nose and throat doctors), Head and Neck Surgeons (ASOHNS). Judith is presenting papers on Indigenous hearing health and tinnitus management.

INDIGENOUS HEARING HEALTH

In 2010-2011, the clinical care guidelines for treating ear infections in Aboriginal Australians were rewritten, under the auspices of the Australian Government's Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health. Judith was a member of the Technical Advisory Group for the project and has been preparing training materials for introducing these Guidelines, nationally, to

doctors, nurses and other primary health staff, on behalf of the Australian General Practice Network. Training sessions are planned all around the country in 2012. Contact your local Division of General Practice or Medicare Local for more information.

PENSIONERS' AND VETERANS' HEARING SERVICES

Move to a 3 Year Voucher.

1. From 1 January 2012, new voucher clients of the Australian Government Hearing Services Program will receive service vouchers that last for 3 years instead of 2 years.
2. If you hold a current 2 year voucher on 1 January 2012, it is still valid. Your next voucher will be a 3 year voucher.
3. The vouchers will still cover the full range of services (assessment, rehabilitation, hearing aids, and aid adjustments) except they will last for 3 years instead of 2 years.
4. If you need a hearing reassessment or hearing aid replacement earlier than normal you will still be able to

access these services. Contact your hearing service provider to discuss your hearing concerns.

(N.B clients are not eligible for new hearing aids every voucher period, but according to clinical need or if their current hearing aids are over six years old and they are ineffective).

Neuromonics Tinnitus Treatment Protocol for Veterans

The Department of Veterans Affairs is now funding the Neuromonics Protocol for eligible clients. To be eligible, clients must have tinnitus listed as an accepted disability by DVA and tinnitus therapy must be recommended by an ear, nose and throat specialist. Clinicians will need to obtain approval from DVA before tinnitus therapy can commence.

TINNITUS – AHC SERVICES

AHC Half-Day Tinnitus Management Course, 2012

Do you suffer from tinnitus – buzzing, ringing, whistling and other sounds in the ears or head? Have you been told to "go home and learn to live with it"? There ARE effective ways to reduce your attention to these annoying sounds and to regain control of your life. Hear about the causes and effects of tinnitus and ways you can reduce tinnitus annoyance successfully. Courses will be held at our clinics in Adelaide and Glenelg North. Call either office for more information or to book a place.

Thursday March 22	Adelaide
Tuesday June 26	Glenelg North
Thursday September 20	Adelaide
Tuesday December 11	Glenelg North

See what past participants have thought of this Course at our website. Click on 'Events' on our Homepage: www.adelaidehearingconsultants.com.au Follow the link to 'Tinnitus Half-Day course'.

WHAT CAN I DO FOR RINGING IN MY EARS?

TINNITUS – TINNITUS SA SERVICES

The Tinnitus SA website has had a makeover. Visit www.tinnitussa.org and see the brighter, clearer look. The navigation has improved and information has been updated. Check to see what new Fact Sheets are available for free download. Tinnitus SA welcomes your comments and suggestions. Just call 1300 789 988 or email tinnitussa@chariot.net.au

FREE Tinnitus Information Sessions, 2012

'New Research in Tinnitus'

February 16	Adelaide	March 7	Gawler
March 19	Port Augusta	April 2	Sefton Park
April 23	Noarlunga	May 8	Mt Barker
May 21	Fullarton Park	June 5	Semaphore Park
June 8	Minlaton	Call 1300 789 988 to book.	

