

Everyday life experiences and academic outcomes of individuals who received cochlear implants before the age of 2.5 years

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Background

It has been well documented that early cochlear implantation has led to benefits in terms of speech and language outcomes but long-term outcomes on quality of life and academic outcomes in this target group are lacking.

Aim

The aim of this study was to investigate outcomes of everyday life and academic outcomes in a cohort of adolescents who received cochlear implants before the age of 2,5 years.

Method

Data was collected through the Young People's Survey (YPS) which has been frequently used with adolescents with cochlear implants in the UK, and in this study, compared to a control group of Swedish adolescents with typical hearing.

Results

Preliminary data show that Swedish adolescents who received cochlear implants at an early age have an active everyday lifestyle, mainly go to mainstream schools, and a large proportion attend university. The presentation will also include the cohort's attitude to music and discuss their subjective listening experiences.

Discussion

The results are the first to describe the everyday life and academic outcomes in relation to background factors that may provide a better understanding for the situation and needs of this target group.