



Callier Center for Communication Disorders

Evaluation of Speech Production in Deaf Children

Dear Parents:

We are writing to invite you to participate in an exciting new project we are conducting at the Callier Center for Communication Disorders. We are involved in a study to evaluate speech production in **children with cochlear implants**.

As a part of this research, Dr. Sneha Bharadwaj is collecting speech samples such as syllables and sentences produced by children (**ages of 6-15 years**) who have at least 3 years of implant experience. The goal of this study is to investigate the extent to which children monitor and adjust their speech based on self-hearing (auditory feedback).

Questions & Answers

1. Is there a charge for evaluations?

No! In fact, your child will receive \$20 as a reward for completing the evaluation.

2. What will children have to do during these evaluations?

Children will be required to come to our lab *just once*. They will be asked to read syllables and simple sentences printed on index cards in front of a microphone in two conditions: (1) with their cochlear implant device turned off (self-hearing absent) and (2) with the device turned on (self-hearing present). The audio recording will take up to *an hour*. These recordings will be stored under lock and key.

3. What will be done with these recordings?

The audio recordings will be transferred to a computer for detailed acoustic analyses to determine how quickly components of speech produced by your child drift or become modified following changes to hearing status.

Interested parents can ask for a report on acoustic analysis of vowels. This report will contain information on how the vowels produced by their child compares with those produced by their normal-hearing peers.



4. Where & when will the evaluations be conducted?

The evaluations can be carried out at any of the **two locations** for the Callier Center for Communication Disorders (**Richardson or Dallas, at the time & place that is most convenient to you**).

For more information, please call or contact:

Sneha V. Bharadwaj Ph. D.

Callier Center for Comm. Disorders

Phone: (972)883-3606

Fax: (972)883-3622

Email: snehab@utdallas.edu

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