The Cochlear Implant Research Laboratory at the Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center is currently conducting a research project with cochlear implant recipients who are 6 to 14 years. The purpose of this study is to determine the amount of hearing needed in the non-implanted ear to obtain the maximum bimodal benefit (CI + HA). The research project will require your child to 1) listen to words and sentences in quiet and in noise and repeat the sentences, 2) listen to different noise-like sounds and make judgments about those sounds, and 3) fill out a questionnaire asking questions about how your child feels. In addition, we will ask that the primary caregiver (mother, father, grandparent, etc.) also fill out a similar questionnaire about how you believe your child feels.

All sounds will be presented through loudspeakers at levels typically encountered in everyday communication environments. Your child’s participation would involve two visits. Each visit would involve approximately 60 to 90 minutes of listening/testing. Your child will be provided with a $25 gift card after each visit for their time spent participating. You will also be provided with a $25 gift card after each visit for completing the questionnaire and your time.

Please understand that participation is voluntary. Your current and future medical care at Vanderbilt University Medical Center will not be affected by whether or not you participate. Specifically, your care will not be jeopardized if you choose not to participate.

Please contact Dr. René Gifford at rene.gifford@Vanderbilt.edu for more information or to express your willingness to participate.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

René H. Gifford, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Vanderbilt University
Director, Cochlear Implant Program
Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center