The Cochlear Implant Laboratory at Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center is currently seeking adult research participants who have either i) a cochlear implant with acoustic hearing in the non-implanted ear, ii) a cochlear implant with acoustic hearing in both ears, or iii) bilateral cochlear implants.

If you take part in this research study, you will listen to sounds and sentences at a comfortable listening level through multiple loudspeakers placed around you. The total testing time may take up to 8 hours. Research participation can also be spaced over multiple days to prevent fatigue. You will be asked to listen to sounds and sentences at a comfortable listening level through multiple loudspeakers placed around you. You will be asked to repeat what you hear including sentences and words with your implant alone, your hearing aid(s) alone, and the implant and hearing aid(s) combined. You will also be asked to identify the source location of a noise burst from an array of loudspeakers. Frequent breaks will be provided.

We understand that your time is valuable and we will make every effort to make participation convenient, productive and rewarding. You will receive remuneration of $100 per day of testing as well as mileage reimbursement for your travel time for those research participants within driving distance of the clinic.

If you live outside driving distance to Vanderbilt University, we will provide your airfare, up to two nights hotel accommodations, ground transportation, and a daily per diem to cover your out-of-pocket meal expenses. Although participation in this project may not result in direct benefit to you, the results will have a direct impact on the design of future generations of cochlear implants. Please contact Dr. René Gifford at rene.h.gifford@Vanderbilt.edu for more information.

Please understand that 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.

Sincerely,


René Gifford, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Hearing and Speech Sciences
Director, Cochlear Implant Program
Associate Director, Pediatric Audiology
Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center
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 17 years. The purpose of this study is to determine whether a new form of implant mapping can improve your child’s speech understanding and the ability to resolve the different pitches of the incoming speech sound. 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 90 minutes of listening/testing (2 hours with breaks). Your child will be provided with a $25 gift card after each visit for time spent participating. You will also be provided with a $5 gift card after each visit for completing the questionnaire.

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.h.gifford@Vanderbilt.edu for more information or to express your willingness to participate.

Sincerely,

René H. Gifford, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Vanderbilt University
Director, Cochlear Implant Program
Associate Director, Pediatric Audiology
Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center
The Cochlear Implant Research Laboratory at the Vanderbilt Bill Wilkerson Center is currently conducting a research project with cochlear implant (CI) recipients who are 6 to 14 years. The purpose of this study is to find out how much hearing is needed in the hearing aid (HA) ear for 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 at levels typically encountered in everyday communication environments. Your child’s participation would involve one visit including approximately 90 minutes of listening/testing (2 hours with breaks). Your child will be provided with a $25 gift card for participating. You will also be provided with a $5 gift card for completing the questionnaire.

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.h.gifford@Vanderbilt.edu for more information or to express your willingness to participate.

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