

The Effect Of Age On Speech In Noise Performance Measured With The French Version Of The Canadian Digit Triplet Test.

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Objectives: This study aims to evaluate the effect of age on the speech in noise performance measured with the French version of the Canadian Digit Triplet Test.

Background: Speech perception gets adversely affected in the presence of competing noise. The importance of evaluating speech perception in noise within regular audiological evaluations of adult and children populations has been advocated for some years. A Canadian English and French version of the Digit Triplet Test (CDTT) has been developed by the University of Ottawa and Toronto (Ellaham et al. 2016, *Canadian Acoustics* 44(3), 220-221) using the ICRA test development guidelines (Akeroyd et al. 2015, *Int. J. Audiol.* 54, 17-22). The test uses an adaptive procedure to find the speech recognition threshold defined as the signal-to-noise ratio at which 50% of triplets are correctly identified.

Methods: The speech recognition threshold of 48 normal hearing French speaking children was measured with the CDTT. Two lists of 24 digit triplets (e.g., 5-2-8) were presented in a 65-dBA masking noise. The listeners were asked to enter the digits heard on a keypad.

Results: Consistent with previous studies conducted with other speech in noise tests, recognition thresholds in noise measured with the CDTT was lower for the group of 8-9 years old (n=24) compared to 11-12 years old (n=24). Comparisons with adult normative data (previously published) will be presented, as well as test-retest reliability of the CDTT.

Conclusions: The CDTT requires little practice and can be quickly administered, making it ideal for measuring speech in noise performance in children.