

# Assessment of degeneration of the auditory nerve by diffusion tensor imaging in unilaterally and bilaterally deaf adults

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<b>Ethical review</b>	Approved WMO
<b>Status</b>	Recruitment stopped
<b>Health condition type</b>	Ear and labyrinthine disorders congenital
<b>Study type</b>	Observational invasive

## Summary

### ID

NL-OMON45145

### Source

ToetsingOnline

### Brief title

Diffusion tensor imaging of the auditory nerve

### Condition

- Ear and labyrinthine disorders congenital
- Hearing disorders

### Synonym

deafness, hearing loss

### Research involving

Human

## Sponsors and support

**Primary sponsor:** Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht

**Source(s) of monetary or material Support:** Ministerie van OC&W

## Intervention

**Keyword:** cochlear nerve, deaf, degeneration, imaging

## Outcome measures

### Primary outcome

Comparison of fractional anisotropy (FA) and mean diffusivity (MD) of the auditory nerve between normal and deaf sides Furthermore, FA and MD will be correlated with duration of deafness. Other DTI metrics may be considered as well.

### Secondary outcome

Correlation between the DTI parameters and eCAP parameters of patients who receive a CI. Correlation of DTI and eCAP parameters with duration of deafness. Reproducibility of DTI measures.

## Study description

### Background summary

A cochlear implant (CI) can restore hearing in patients with profound sensorineural hearing loss by direct electrical stimulation of the auditory nerve. A good condition of the auditory nerve is of paramount importance to bring about satisfactory hearing results after cochlear implantation. However, degeneration of the auditory nerve occurs as a result of cochlear hair cell loss and the extent of degeneration may vary between the two ears in bilaterally deaf (BD) patients. In most cases, one ear is implanted. It is therefore important to choose the ear with the best nerve, which presumably will give the greatest benefit of a CI. In a recent pilot study in 10 subjects (METC 13-493) we have demonstrated that diffusion tensor imaging (DTI), a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technique, can be used to visualize the

auditory nerve (Vos et al. 2015). A quantified DTI measure showed differences between unilaterally deaf (UD) patients and control subjects, but no differences between the normal and deaf side within the UD patients.

## **Study objective**

Firstly, comparison of DTI outcome variables between the auditory nerve of a deaf ear with that of a normal ear. Secondly, in patients who receive a CI, DTI measures will be compared to measures derived from electrically evoked compound action potentials (eCAPs).

## **Study design**

This is an observational study performed at the University Medical Center Utrecht (UMCU). Patients with UD who will receive a CI and patients with BD who will receive a CI, and healthy volunteers will undergo DTI. The UD and BD patients will be subject to eCAP recordings directly after implantation.

## **Study burden and risks**

The used techniques in this study are audiometry, MRI, and eCAP recording. Normal-hearing subjects undergo 15 minutes audiometry. All patients and 10 of the normal-hearing control subjects undergo an MRI scan of approximately 30 minutes. The remaining 10 control subjects will participate in 4 MRI sessions of 30 minutes. In all patients a session of 15 minutes eCAP recordings will be performed in addition to clinical eCAP recordings performed under anesthesia immediately following CI surgery. The risks of these techniques are negligible, and not different from when used in a routine clinical setting. No immediate benefits for individual subjects are to be expected from participation in this study. However, the knowledge derived from this study could facilitate the choice for the best ear to implant in patients with BD.

## **Contacts**

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## Trial sites

### Listed location countries

Netherlands

## Eligibility criteria

### Age

Adults (18-64 years)

Elderly (65 years and older)

### Inclusion criteria

In order to be eligible to participate in this study, a subject must meet all of the following criteria:

- Aged 18 or older
- Normal function of middle ear, i.e., no acute middle ear infections, no tympanic membrane perforations and an air bone gap (which reflects middle-ear function) < 10 dB.;Additional inclusion criteria for unilateral deaf groups (same as in CINGLE trial):
- Hearing in \*deaf\* ear: hearing threshold for individual frequencies (0.5, 1, 2, 4 kHz)  $\geq$  70 dB HL.
- \*Deaf\* ear has been deaf for no longer than 10 years
- Hearing in \*normal\* ear: hearing threshold for individual frequencies (0.5, 1, 2, 4 kHz)  $\leq$  30 dB HL. Note that near-normal hearing is included by applying a less stringent criterion than for the normal-hearing subjects.;Additional inclusion criteria for bilateral deaf group:
- Admitted by cochlear implant team of the UMCU for cochlear implantation based on various clinical criteria.
- Implanted with a CI from manufacturer MED-EL or Cochlear;Additional inclusion criteria for normal-hearing group:
- Hearing within normal range: hearing threshold for individual frequencies  $\leq$  25 dB HL
- Average hearing threshold over 0.5,1,2 and 4 kHz  $\leq$  15 dB HL.

### Exclusion criteria

A subject who meets any of the following criteria will be excluded from participation in this study:

- Abnormal cochlear anatomy in one or both ears (i.e. malformation or ossification).

- Disability which could interfere with the completion of the tests (i.e. psychiatric problems).
- Patients with contraindications for Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) - not fulfilling the criteria of the MRI inclusion list, including the presence of a pacemaker and pregnancy

## Study design

### Design

Study type:	Observational invasive
Intervention model:	Other
Allocation:	Non-randomized controlled trial
Masking:	Open (masking not used)
Control:	Active
Primary purpose:	Diagnostic

### Recruitment

NL	
Recruitment status:	Recruitment stopped
Start date (anticipated):	15-09-2016
Enrollment:	50
Type:	Actual

### Medical products/devices used

Generic name:	CIPT-system (Cochlear Implant Psychophysics Test system)
Registration:	No

## Ethics review

Approved WMO	
Date:	21-12-2015
Application type:	First submission
Review commission:	METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)
Approved WMO	
Date:	11-01-2018

Application type: Amendment  
Review commission: METC Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht (Utrecht)

## Study registrations

### Followed up by the following (possibly more current) registration

No registrations found.

### Other (possibly less up-to-date) registrations in this register

No registrations found.

### In other registers

Register	ID
CCMO	NL53077.041.15