# The Acoustic Change Complex in normal hearing adults and adults with sensorineural hearing loss

Published: 24-04-2012 Last updated: 28-04-2024

Primary objective: To assess the level of agreement between the following tests:- The minimal frequency difference necessary to evoke an ACC in normal hearing adults and adults with SNHL (ACC threshold).- The just noticeable frequency differences...

Ethical reviewApproved WMOStatusRecruitment stoppedHealth condition typeHearing disorders

**Study type** Observational non invasive

## **Summary**

#### ID

**NL-OMON45183** 

## Source

ToetsingOnline

#### **Brief title**

ACC in NH and SNHL adults

## **Condition**

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: ACC, Acoustic Change Complex, Evoked potential

## **Outcome measures**

## **Primary outcome**

The presence of the ACC waveform evoked by the smallest frequency change and the just noticeable frequency difference perceived by normal hearing adults and SNHL patients, expressed in Hz.

## **Secondary outcome**

The speech reception in noise threshold obtained by normal hearing adults and SNHL patients, expressed in dB.

# **Study description**

## **Background summary**

Our ability to understand spoken language, which is a complex sound consisting of various frequency and amplitude changes, is related to the ability to perceive subtle changes in frequencies and intensities of simple sounds as tones. Patients with sensorineural hearing loss (SNHL) experience frequently difficulties when they are asked to report small frequency and intensity changes. An electrophysiology measurement, such as the acoustic change complex (ACC), recorded from the auditory cortex, might be an appropriate objective tool, to test whether tone changes are perceived. To date, little is known about the relation of the perception of small tone changes by normal hearing subjects and subjects with SNHL and the presence of the ACC. In this study we aim to assess the level of agreement between the ACC and small frequency changes, the so called \*just noticeable differences (JND)\*, perceived by normal hearing and hearing impaired adults with sensorineural hearing loss. Subjects will not have a direct benefit of this study, but the results of this study will contribute to the scientific knowledge of how frequency changes in stimuli are perceived in the auditory cortex. Furthermore, a high level of agreement between the ACC and the JND might lead to the development of a new objective test to evaluate the frequency discrimination in patients who are unable to reliably report these subtle differences, such as children. The ACC might also be useful in the follow-up of cochlear implant patients.

Musical training improves frequency JNDs and speech in noise perception. Because of the therapeutic potential of musical training we like to examine, as secondary objective, the effect of musical training on ACCs and frequency JNDs.

## **Study objective**

## Primary objective:

To assess the level of agreement between the following tests:

- The minimal frequency difference necessary to evoke an ACC in normal hearing adults and adults with SNHL (ACC threshold).
- The just noticeable frequency differences perceived by normal hearing adults and adults with SNHL (JND threshold).

## Secondary objectives:

To assess the relation between the speech reception in noise threshold and the ACC and JND thresholds.

To assess the effect of hearing loss and musical training on ACCs and JNDs To evaluate the repeatability of the ACC recordings in normal hearing adults and adults with SNHL within one test session.

## Study design

24 normal hearing subjects and 24 subjects with sensorineural hearing loss will be included in this observational study. All participants will be subject to three tests: ACC recordings, JND tests and speech-in-noise test. A standard audiogram will be measured to assess the hearing (normal or loss). A music questionnaire will be completed by the subject to assess the musical training.

## Study burden and risks

The ACC recording, the just noticeable difference tests and the speech reception in noise tests are considered as a non-risk investigation; adverse events are not expected to occur during the measurements. The expected burden due to participation for all participants consists of one session of approximately 3,5 hours.

Subjects will not have a direct benefit of this study, but the results of this study will contribute to the scientific knowledge of how frequency changes in stimuli are perceived in the auditory cortex. Furthermore, a high level of agreement between the ACC and the JND might lead to the development of a new objective test to evaluate the frequency discrimination in patients who are unable to reliably report these subtle differences, such as children. A confirmation of benefit of musical training for ACC and JND might lead to hearing therapy based on music.

## **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

Normal hearing group:

- Age >=18 years
- Written informed consent
- Hearing thresholds standard audiometric test (125 8000Hz) <= 20 dB HL and an average over 500-1000-2000-4000 Hz <= 15 dB HL ;SNHL group:
- Age >=18 years
- Written informed consent
- Hearing thresholds standard audiometric test (125 8000Hz) > 20 dB HL and an average over 500-1000-2000-4000 Hz > 15 dB HL
- Average air-bone gap of <= 7.5 dB over 250-500-1000-2000 Hz

## **Exclusion criteria**

- Neurological or mental disorders
- Use of anticonvulsant medication or psychotherapeutic drugs

# Study design

## **Design**

Study type: Observational non 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): 28-06-2012

Enrollment: 48

Type: Actual

## Medical products/devices used

Generic name: ACC/CEAP stimulation with DECOS patientinterface PI2496-R

Registration: No

## **Ethics review**

Approved WMO

Date: 24-04-2012

Application type: First submission

Review commission: METC NedMec

Approved WMO

Date: 17-10-2012

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC NedMec

Approved WMO

Date: 14-04-2015

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC NedMec

Approved WMO

Date: 14-02-2018

Application type: Amendment

Review commission: METC NedMec

# **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 NL37719.041.11

# **Study results**

Results posted: 11-01-2023

## **Summary results**

Trial ended prematurely

## First publication

01-01-1900

#### **URL** result

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doi.org URL