Reviewer's report

Title: A Retrospective Study of Cochlear Implant Outcomes in Children with Residual Hearing

Version: 1 Date: 24 February 2006

Reviewer: robert harrison

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

This is a relatively modest study (in terms of patient numbers) to describe the performance of children with cochlear implants who have previously had some aidable residual hearing. The work has been carefully done by a very experienced group. Overall I think that it is useful for the study to be published.

Other than the small sample size, I have two other comments. I think that the review of literature is a little thin and patchy. Secondly it is not clear why this group did not have a control arm to the study, and look at performance on the same tasks in children without cochlear implants. The results would have been more significant. However as it stands I believe that it warrants publication.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests