

## CONTOUR TEST PSYCHOPHYSICAL PROCEDURE

**Stimulus:** Frequency specific (WTs) or whole speech.

**Stimulus duration:** 4 200 ms (or 250 ms) pulses of WT, or 4-5 sec speech.

**Approach mode:** ascending.

**Starting level:** 1 or 2 increments above threshold.

**Stopping level:** when loudness category = uncomfortable.

**Increment:** 5 dB if threshold <50 HL (dynamic range is wide), 2-2.5 dB if threshold  $\geq$ 50 HL (dynamic range is narrow).

**Number of practice runs:** 1 per test session, preferably @ 1 kHz.

**Number of test runs:** 4 per test frequency (3 if patient is very consistent).

**Result:** Level for each loudness category is the **MEDIAN** value of levels assigned to that category across all 3-4 runs.

**Transducer:** ER-3A insert earphone with foam eartip.

**Calibration:** Can be in HL but eventually results are expressed in SPL in the HA-1 2cc coupler to be comparable to hearing aid performance data.

**Instructions:** Standard words (see attached instructions and category listing). Best if read by client and tester together. Make sure client knows that he/she can use any category that seems appropriate. He/she does not have to use them in order or any particular number of times. Try not to elaborate beyond this.

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR LOUDNESS TEST**

THE PURPOSE OF THIS TEST IS TO FIND YOUR JUDGMENTS OF THE LOUDNESS OF DIFFERENT SOUNDS.

YOU WILL HEAR SOUNDS THAT INCREASE AND DECREASE IN VOLUME. YOU MUST MAKE A JUDGMENT ABOUT HOW LOUD THE SOUNDS ARE. PRETEND YOU ARE LISTENING TO THE RADIO AT THAT VOLUME. HOW LOUD WOULD IT BE?

AFTER EACH SOUND, TELL ME WHICH OF THESE CATEGORIES BEST DESCRIBES THE LOUDNESS.

KEEP IN MIND THAT AN UNCOMFORTABLY LOUD SOUND IS LOUDER THAN YOU WOULD EVER CHOOSE ON YOUR RADIO NO MATTER WHAT MOOD YOU ARE IN.

# **CATEGORIES OF LOUDNESS**

- 7. UNCOMFORTABLY LOUD**
- 6. LOUD, BUT O.K.**
- 5. COMFORTABLE, BUT SLIGHTLY LOUD**
- 4. COMFORTABLE**
- 3. COMFORTABLE, BUT SLIGHTLY SOFT**
- 2. SOFT**
- 1. VERY SOFT**

# NORMAL RANGE FOR CONTOUR TEST (WARBLE TONE STIMULI)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

File #: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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