MEASUREMENT OF SATISFACTION WITH AMPLIFICATION IN DAILY LIFE

Robyn M. Cox a,b, and Genevieve C. Alexander a,b

University of Memphis a, and Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center b, Memphis, Tennessee

Presented at the American Academy of Audiology National Convention, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 1997 Sample Items from SADL Scale 1. Compared to using no hearing aid at all. In the current health care climate it is important to Steps in Development of SADL does your hearing aid(s) help you be able to document the efficacy of hearing aid understand the people you speak with Not At All provision. Further, maintenance of excellence in most frequently? A Little clinical practice requires regular monitoring of 2. Are you frustrated when your hearing Somewhat patient's perceptions of products and services **Evaluation of test-retest** aid(s) picks up sounds that keep you •Medium Standardized self-assessment instruments that characteristics (projected) from hearing what you want to hear? Considerably · Literature search can measure reduction of handicap and reduction of December, 1997) 3. Are you convinced that purchasing your Greatly Interviews with hearing disability resulting from use of amplification have hearing aid(s) was in your best •Tremendously aid wearers come into fairly wide use for these purposes. interests? However, neither type of instrument addresses the 4. Do people notice your hearing loss more global satisfaction of the hearing aid wearer with the when you wear your hearing aids? amplification device. In the long run, global satisfaction is probably the variable most closely related to the success of a hearing aid fitting from Analysis to select final the patient's point of view. Survey of importance of 14 items and subscales. In this poster, we present the results of a series of aspects of hearing aids. studies designed to develop a self-assessment Analysis to determine Generation of 42 trial items instrument for clinical measurement of hearing aid "Elements of Satisfaction" covering the satisfaction elements. satisfaction in elderly people. The inventory, the Focus group meetings to reduce Satisfaction with Amplification in Daily Life Mean scores (black circles) and 20th - 80th percentile range (yellow the number of trial items to 25. (SADL) Scale, is composed of 15 items. It could be bars) for the SADL global score and each subscale. Responses to 25 trial items by 257 used to assess the outcome of a new fitting after a Green lines (circles) and blue lines (triangles) give results for 2 hearing aid wearers. reasonable accommodation period or to assess the individuals who yielded different response patterns. These results efficacy of an existing fitting. indicate that the patient depicted with green is more satisfied than In the future, we will develop an expectation scale Relative Importance the patient depicted with blue. of Four Elements of Satisfaction Clinical data are needed to validate interpretations of different response 100 based on the same set of items. patterns. Speech in noise Feeling in ear Natural sound Subject Age Satisfaction (%) H. Aid Experience Absence of feedback Telephone Improved Demographics Comfort: Speech in quiet Honest dispense Sound (physical and 60-69 1 - 10 years Localization Helpful dispenser psychological 70-79 <6 wks Cosmetics 80-89 6-53 Cost: 20 (financial and Appearance to others Type of Practice **Estimated** psychological Inconspicuous Easy to handle Most important for **Hearing Difficulty** H. Aid Use satisfaction: Low maintence (Hrs per day) 1. speech in noise. Global Benefit Service Negative Cosmetic **VA Hospital** Purchase and use expense 2. natural/clear sound. Score Features Impression Community 3. low maintenance. Private 4-8 hr None 4. knowledgeable, honest, helpful dispenser. Severe 5. absence of annoying 8-16 hr sounds like feedback Supported by the Department of Veterans Affairs RR&D Service We thank Peter Marincovich for

> generous assistance in securing subjects.