

# Current Strategies for Assessment of Infant Hearing Plus an Update on Diagnostic Audiometry in Adults

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## **Current Strategies for Assessment of Infant Hearing Plus an Update on Diagnostic Audiometry in Adults**

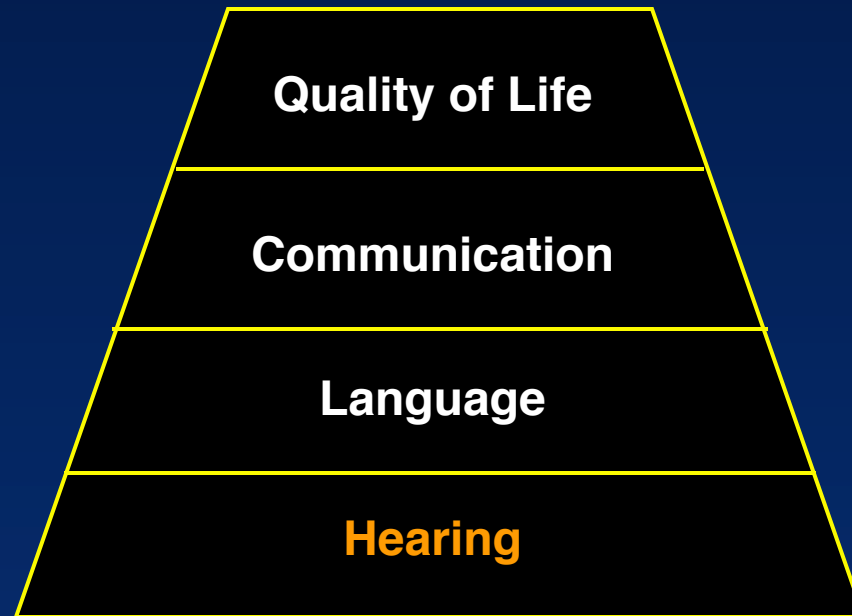
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- ☐ Overview of Objective Infant Hearing Assessment
- ☐ Electro-Acoustic Procedures
  - Acoustic Immittance Measures
  - Otoacoustic Emissions
- ☐ ABR and ASSR Measurement with Frequency Specific, Chirp, and Bone Conduction Stimulation
- ☐ Live Demonstration
- ☐ Update on Diagnostic Audiometry and Speech Audiometry in Children and Adults

## Overview of Infant Hearing Assessment

- ❑ Early diagnosis and intervention improves communication
- ❑ Accurate assessment of infant hearing is standard of care
- ❑ Efficient screening for identification of hearing loss
- ❑ The cross-check principle still rules
- ❑ An objective auditory test battery
  - Acoustic immittance measures
  - OAEs
  - ABR
  - ASSR
  - ECoChG

## **Hearing: An Important Building Block in the Foundation for Communication and Quality of Life**





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## **A Common Evidence Grading System: *Four Categories***

- ❑ **Grade 1**
  - **1a:** Well-designed meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials
  - **1b:** Well-designed randomized controlled trials
- ❑ **Grade 2**
  - **2a:** Well-designed controlled studies without randomization
  - **2b:** Well-designed quasi-experimental studies
- ❑ **Grade 3: Well-designed non-experimental studies, i.e.,**
  - **Correlational studies**
  - **Case studies**
- ❑ **Grade 4:**
  - **Expert committee reports, consensus conferences and clinical experience**

## **Overview of Infant Hearing Assessment: *Clinical Guidelines***

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- ❑ **Joint Committee on Infant Hearing Year 2007 Position Statement: Principles and Guidelines for Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Programs. *Pediatrics*, 120, 2007-2333, 2007**
- ❑ **2008 Guidelines on Identification, Diagnosis, and Management of Auditory Neuropathy Spectrum Disorder in Infants and Young Children**
- ❑ **2012 American Academy of Audiology: Audiologic Guidelines for the Assessment of Hearing in Infants and Young Children**
- ❑ **2013 American Academy of Audiology Clinical Practice Guidelines: Pediatric Amplification**
- ❑ **Guidance for Auditory Brainstem Response Testing in Babies (Version 2.1) March 2013. NHSP Clinical Group**

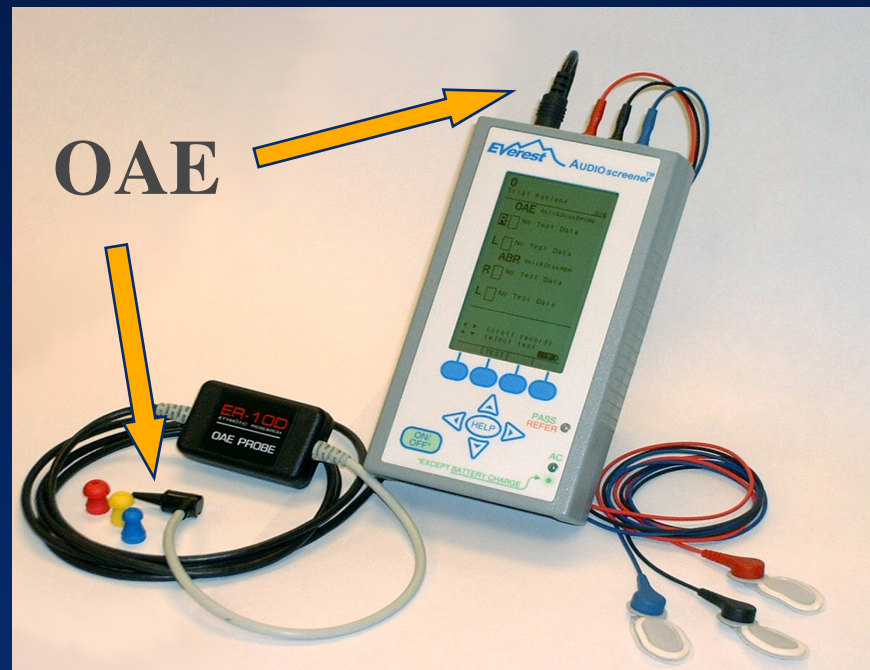
## **Example of A Practice Guideline in Audiology: Year 2007 JCIH Position Statement Protocol for Evaluation for Hearing Loss In Infants and Toddlers from Birth to 6 months**

- ❑ Child and family history
- ❑ Evaluation of risk factors for congenital hearing loss
- ❑ Parental report of infant's responses to sound
- ❑ Audiological assessment
  - Auditory brainstem response (ABR)
    - ✓ Click-evoked ABR with rarefaction and condensation single-polarity stimulation if there are risk factors for auditory neuropathy
    - ✓ Frequency-specific ABR with air-conduction tone bursts
    - ✓ Bone-conduction stimulation (as indicated)
    - ✓ Auditory steady state response (ASSR) is optional
  - Otoacoustic emissions (distortion product or transient OAEs)
  - Tympanometry with 1000 Hz probe tone
  - "Clinical observation of infant's auditory behavior. *Behavioral observation alone is not adequate for determining whether hearing loss is present in this age group, and is not adequate for the fitting of amplification devices.*"

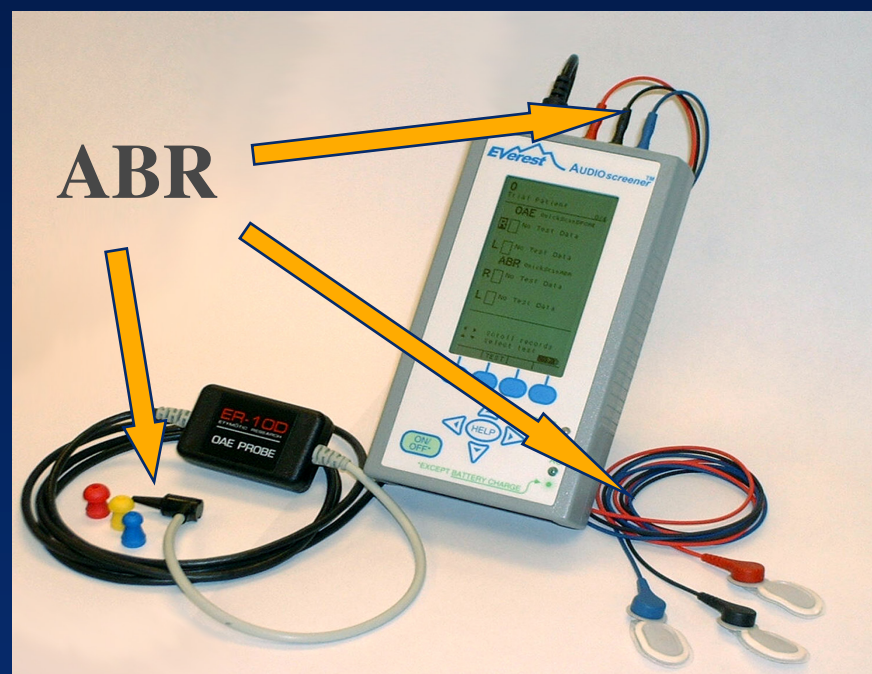
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## Combined Automated OAE and ABR Technique *AUDIOscreeener (GSI)*



## Combined Automated OAE and ABR Technique *AUDIOScreener (GSI)*



## **Combination OAE/ABR Screening: Differentiation of Peripheral Auditory Dysfunction**

*(Hall, Smith & Popelka. Journal of the American Academy of Audiology, August 2004)*

<b>Type of dysfunction</b>	<b>OAE</b>	<b>ABR</b>
<b>None</b>	<b>Normal</b>	<b>Normal</b>
<b>External/middle ear *</b>	<b>Abnormal</b>	<b>Normal</b>
<b>Sensory (OHC)</b>	<b>Abnormal</b>	<b>Abnormal</b>
<b>Neural</b>	<b>Normal</b>	<b>Abnormal</b>

*\* Minor dysfunction in most cases*



## Combined OAE and AABR Study: Results (N = 600)

Diagnostic Outcome	Screening Outcome		N
	Pass	Refer	
Normal	590	2	592
Hearing Impaired	0	8	8
	N	590	10

Sensitivity = 100.0%

Specificity = 99.7%

Refer Rate = 1.7%

Positive Predictive Value = 80.0%

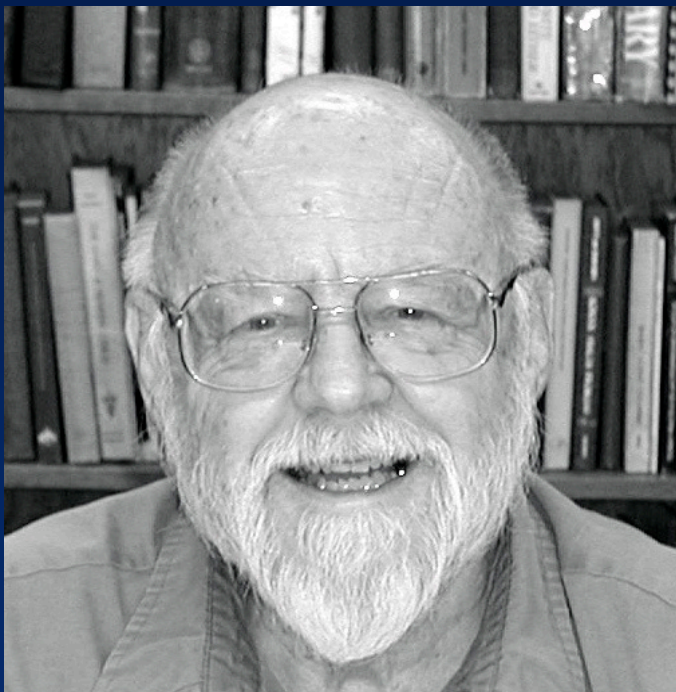
## **OAE and AABR Screening Techniques: 2007 Joint Committee on Infant Hearing Recommendations**

- ❑ **Well baby nursery (WBN)**
  - Screening with OAEs or AABR
  - Refer outcome for AABR
    - ✓ Schedule for diagnostic follow up assessment < 3 months
  - Refer outcome for OAEs?
    - ✓ Immediate follow up screening with AABR
  - Refer outcome for OAEs and AABR?
    - ✓ Schedule for diagnostic follow up assessment < 3 months
- ❑ **Neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) or intensive care nursery (ICN)**
  - Screening AABR (to detect auditory neuropathy)
  - Pass outcome for AABR?
    - ✓ Follow as indicated by risk factors for progressive/delayed onset hearing loss
  - Refer outcome for AABR?
    - ✓ Perform OAEs to identify possible auditory neuropathy
    - ✓ Schedule for diagnostic follow up assessment < 3 months

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## **The Cross-Check Principle in Pediatric Audiology** *(Jerger J & Hayes D. Arch Otolaryngol 102: 1976)*



## **The Cross-Check Principle in Pediatric Audiology** *(Jerger J & Hayes D. Arch Otolaryngol 102: 1976)*

**“We have found that simply observing the auditory behavior of children does not always yield an accurate description of hearing loss”...**

**“The basic operation of this principle is that no result be accepted until it is confirmed by an independent measure.”**

### **Test Battery:**

- **Behavioral audiometry**
- **Immittance (impedance) measurements**
  - ✓ **Tympanometry**
  - ✓ **Acoustic reflexes (contralateral only with SPAR)**
- **Auditory brainstem response (brainstem-evoked response audiometry or BSER)**
  - ✓ **Click stimulus air conduction**
  - ✓ **Click stimulus bone conduction**

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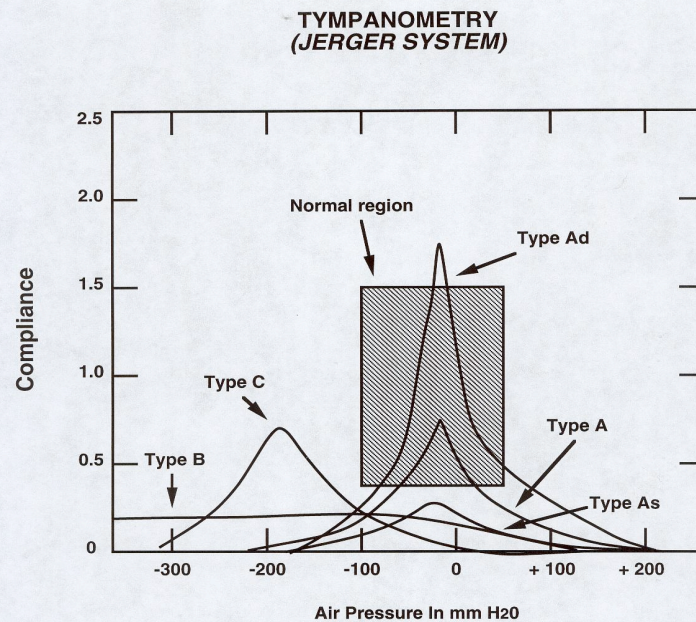
## **British Society of Audiology Recommended Procedure: Tympanometry (August 2013)**

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- ☐ Introduction
- ☐ General considerations
- ☐ Equipment
- ☐ Calibration
- ☐ Subject preparation
- ☐ Test procedure
- ☐ Results and recording
- ☐ References
- ☐ Appendices



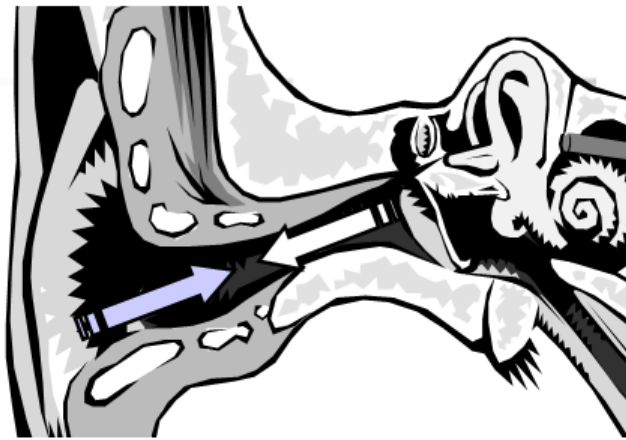
## Acoustic Immittance Measures: *Tympanometry with 226 and 1000 Hz Probe Tones*





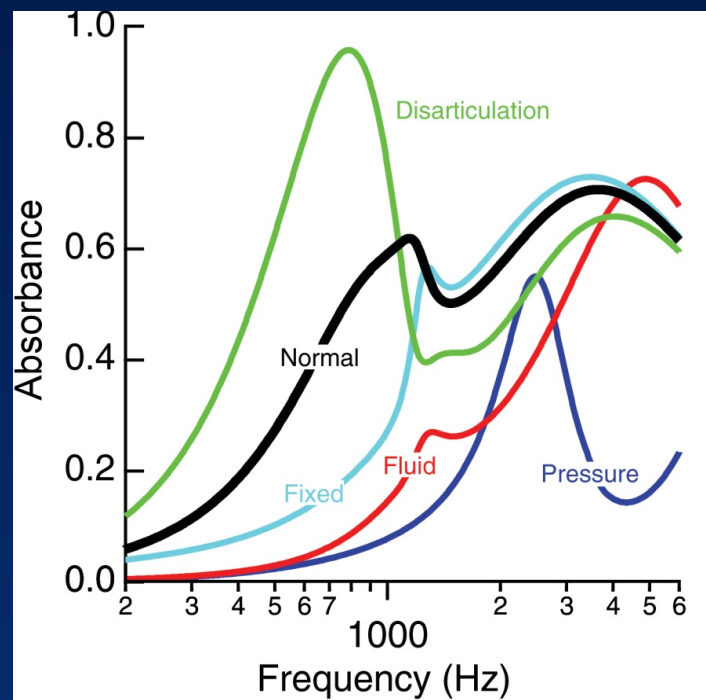
## Wideband Reflectance/Absorbance

(Figure courtesy of Bue Kristensen, Interacoustics, 2013)



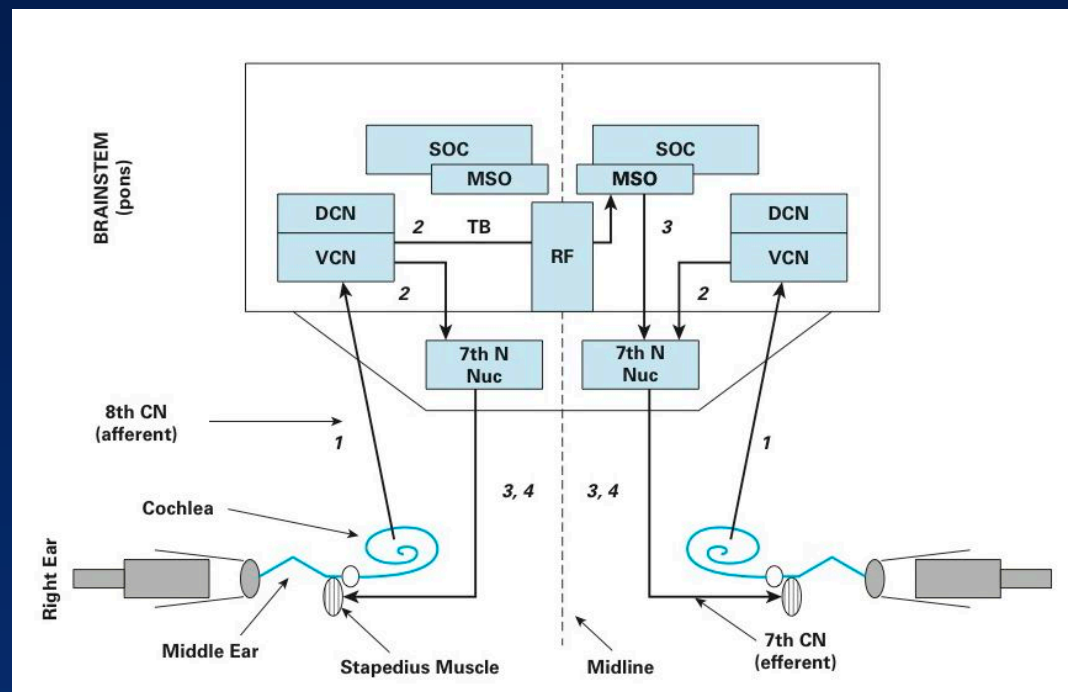
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Energy Absorbance} &= \frac{\text{Absorbed Power}}{\text{Incident Power}} = 0 \\ &= 1 - \text{Energy Reflectance} \end{aligned}$$

## Wideband Reflectance/Absorbance (Voss et al. Ear & Hearing, 2008)



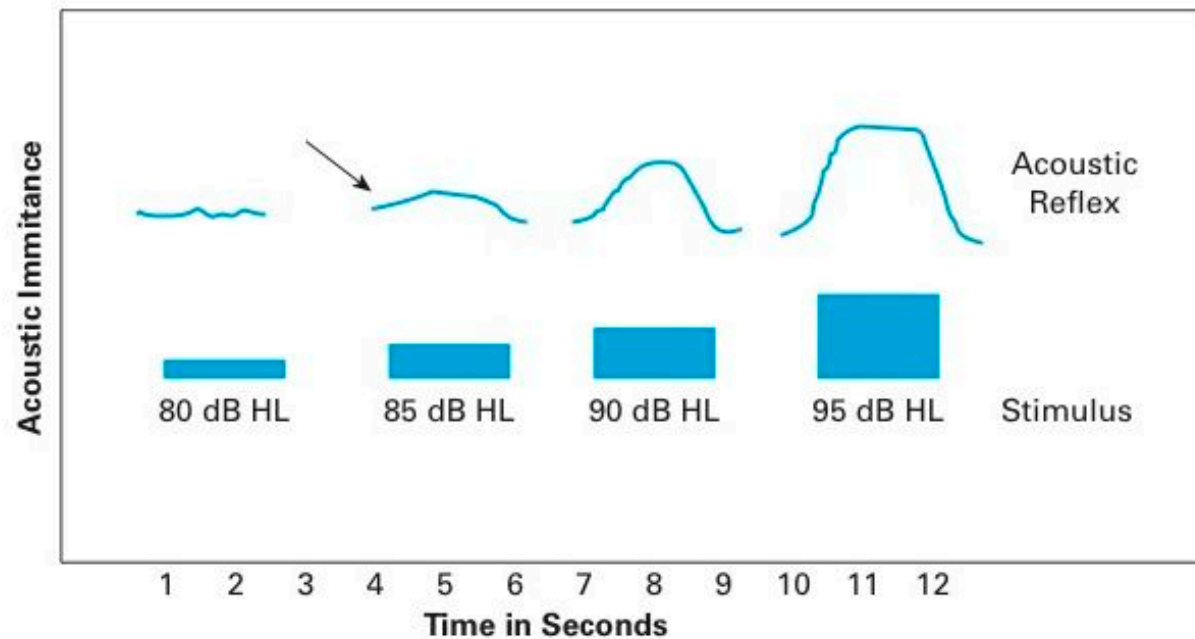
# Acoustic Stapedial Reflex Pathways According to Erick Borg

(From Hall JW III (2014). *Introduction to Audiology Today*. Boston: Pearson)



## Making Acoustic Reflex Measurements

### *Acoustic Reflex Threshold*



## Plotting the Results of Acoustic Reflex Measurements: Objective Differentiation Among Types of Auditory Dysfunction

■ Abnormal  
Acoustic  
Reflex

**Diagnosis Based on Pattern of Abnormalities**  
Middle ear, Cochlea, 8<sup>th</sup> CN, Brainstem, 7<sup>th</sup> CN

Contralateral  
(Crossed)  
Sound Right  
Probe Left

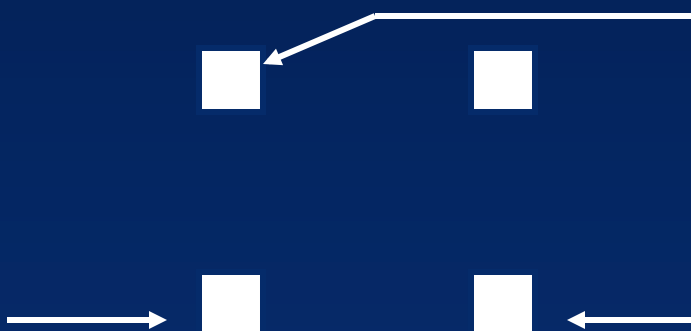
Right

Left

Contralateral  
(Crossed)  
Sound Left  
Probe Right

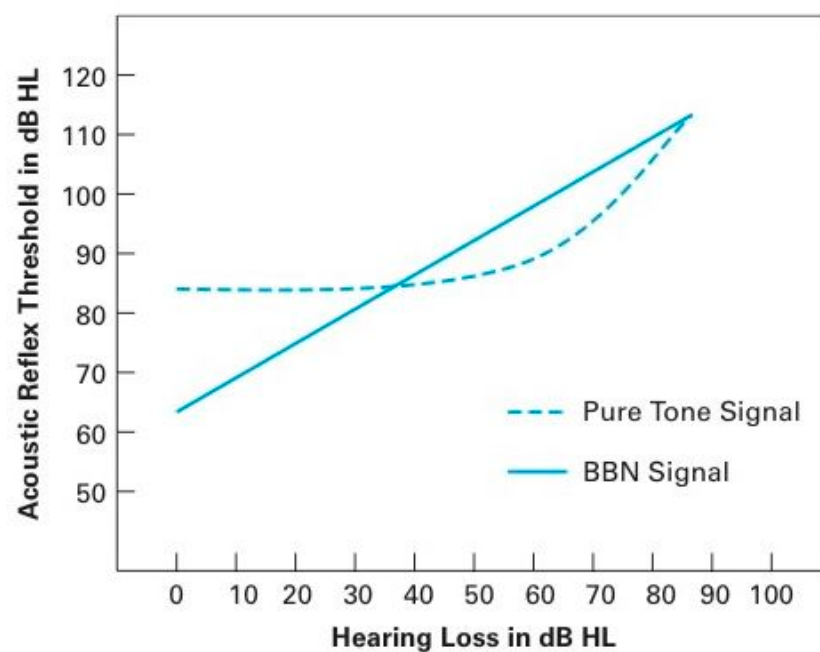
Ipsilateral  
(Uncrossed)  
Sound Right  
Probe Right

Ipsilateral  
(Uncrossed)  
Sound Left  
Probe Left



## Differentiation of Normal Hearing Sensitivity versus Hearing Loss Using BBN Stimulus for Acoustic Reflex Threshold

(Figure from Hall JW III. *Introduction to Audiology Today*. Boston: Pearson, 2014)



## **Contribution of Aural Immittance Measurement to Diagnosis and Intervention of Infant Hearing Loss**

### **□ Diagnostic information**

- Differentiation of middle ear versus sensory auditory dysfunction
- Objective confirmation of sensory hearing loss (acoustic reflexes)
- Objective evidence of retrocochlear auditory dysfunction and of auditory neuropathy spectrum disorder (acoustic reflexes)
- Objective evidence of central auditory nervous system dysfunction (acoustic reflexes)

### **□ Impact on Intervention Outcome**

- Prompt medical management of middle ear disorder
- Cost effective and lower risk decisions regarding further diagnostic test procedures (e.g., ABR under anesthesia)
- Timely referral for multi-disciplinary referrals for prompt and accurate diagnosis of ANSD

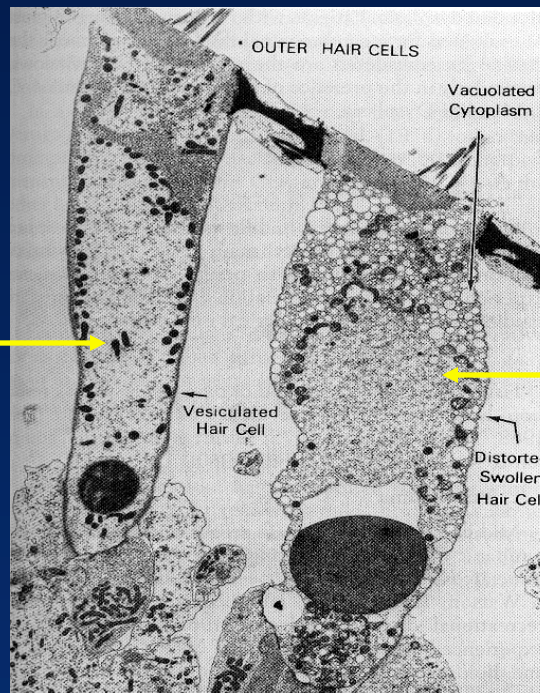
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- ❑ **A modern objective auditory test battery**
  - Acoustic immittance measures
  - **Otoacoustic Emissions (OAEs)**
  - ABR
  - ASSR
  - ECoChG



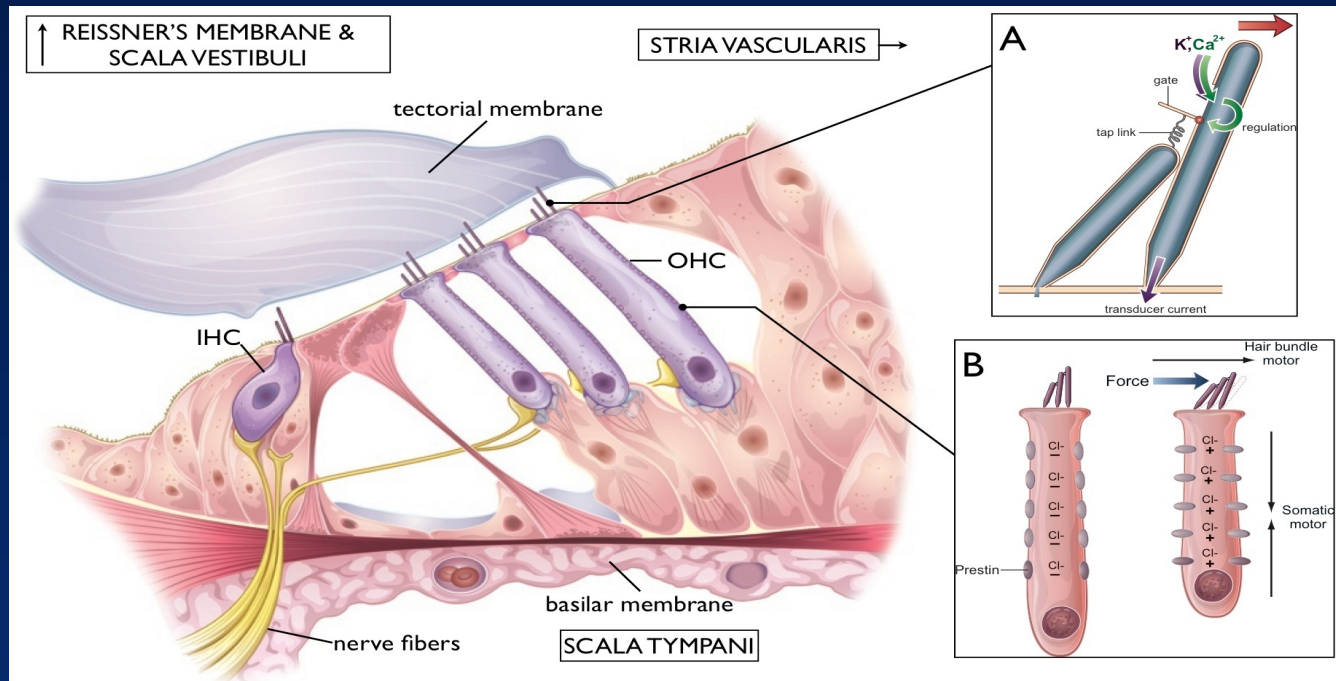
## Otoacoustic Emissions (OAEs) in Early Detection of Outer Hair Cell Dysfunction

**Normal  
OHC  
(OAEs)**



**Abnormal  
OHC  
(OAEs)**

## OAEs Originate in the Cochlea ... *But That's Not the Entire Story*



## **Auditory Anatomy Involved in the Generation of OAEs**

- ❑ Outer hair cell motility
  - Prestin motor protein
- ❑ Stereocilia
  - Motion
  - Stiffness
- ❑ Tectorial membrane
- ❑ Basilar membrane mechanics
  - Dynamic interaction with outer hair cells
- ❑ Stria vascularis
- ❑ Middle ear (inward and outward propagation)
- ❑ External ear canal
  - Stimulus presentation
  - OAE detection

## **Contribution of Otoacoustic Emissions to Diagnosis and Intervention of Infant Hearing Loss**

### **□ Diagnostic information**

- Confirmation of outer hair cell integrity versus dysfunction
- Early detection of cochlear (outer hair cell) dysfunction, e.g., in
  - ✓ Ototoxicity
- Differentiation of outer versus inner hair cell dysfunction
- Objective confirmation of sensory hearing loss
- Identification and diagnosis of auditory neuropathy spectrum disorder

### **□ Impact on Intervention Outcome**

- Earlier and more accurate diagnosis leads to more effective intervention
- Cost effective and lower risk decisions regarding further diagnostic test procedures (e.g., ABR under anesthesia)
- Timely referral for multi-disciplinary referrals for prompt and accurate diagnosis of ANSD

## **Otoacoustic Emissions: Principles, Procedures, and Protocols**

**Plural Publishing**  
**([www.pluralpublishing.com](http://www.pluralpublishing.com))**  
**150 pages, Softcover, 5 x 7.5"**  
**ISBN10: 1-50756-342-0**  
**ISBN13: 978-1-59756-342-0**  
**\$45.00**

### **OTOACOUSTIC EMISSIONS**

**PRINCIPLES, PROCEDURES  
AND PROTOCOLS**



**SUMITRAJIT DHAR  
JAMES W. HALL III**



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  - ABR
    - ✓ Click
    - ✓ Tone burst
    - ✓ Chirp
  - ASSR
  - ECoG
- ❑ Pulling it all together

## **Guidance for Auditory Brainstem Response Testing in Babies (Version 2.1) March 2013. NHSP Clinical Group**

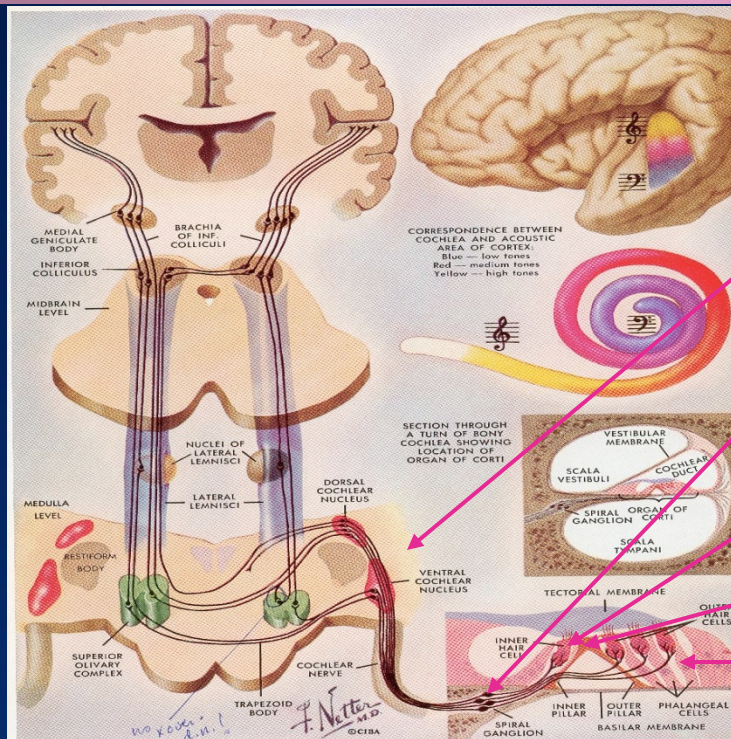
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- ☐ Introduction
- ☐ Scope
- ☐ Patient Preparation
- ☐ Stimulus
- ☐ Data Collection and Analysis
- ☐ Calibration
- ☐ Artefacts
- ☐ Glossary
- ☐ Appendices



# Overview of Infant Hearing Assessment

## Sensory and Neural Assessment



**Brainstem**  
(ABR, ASSR, ARs)

**Spiral ganglion cells**  
(ABR, ECochG)

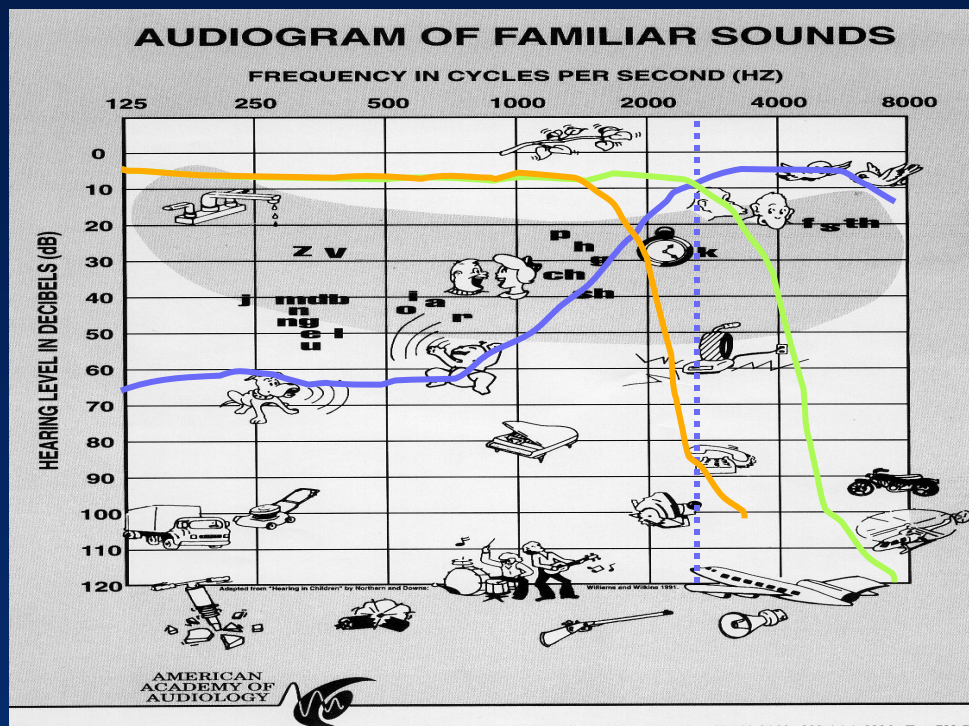
**IHC - 8<sup>th</sup> CN Synapse**  
(ABR)

**Inner hair cells**  
(ECochG, ABR, ASSR, ARs)

**Outer hair cells**  
(OAE, ECochG, ARs)

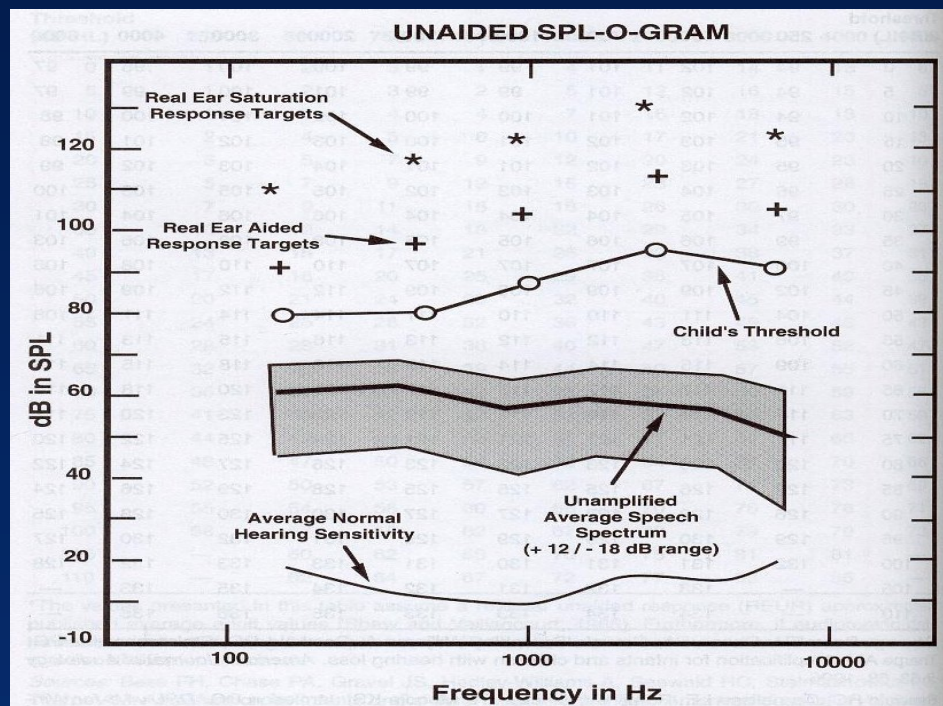


## Frequency-Specific Estimation of Auditory Thresholds: An Essential Step in Diagnosis of Infant Hearing

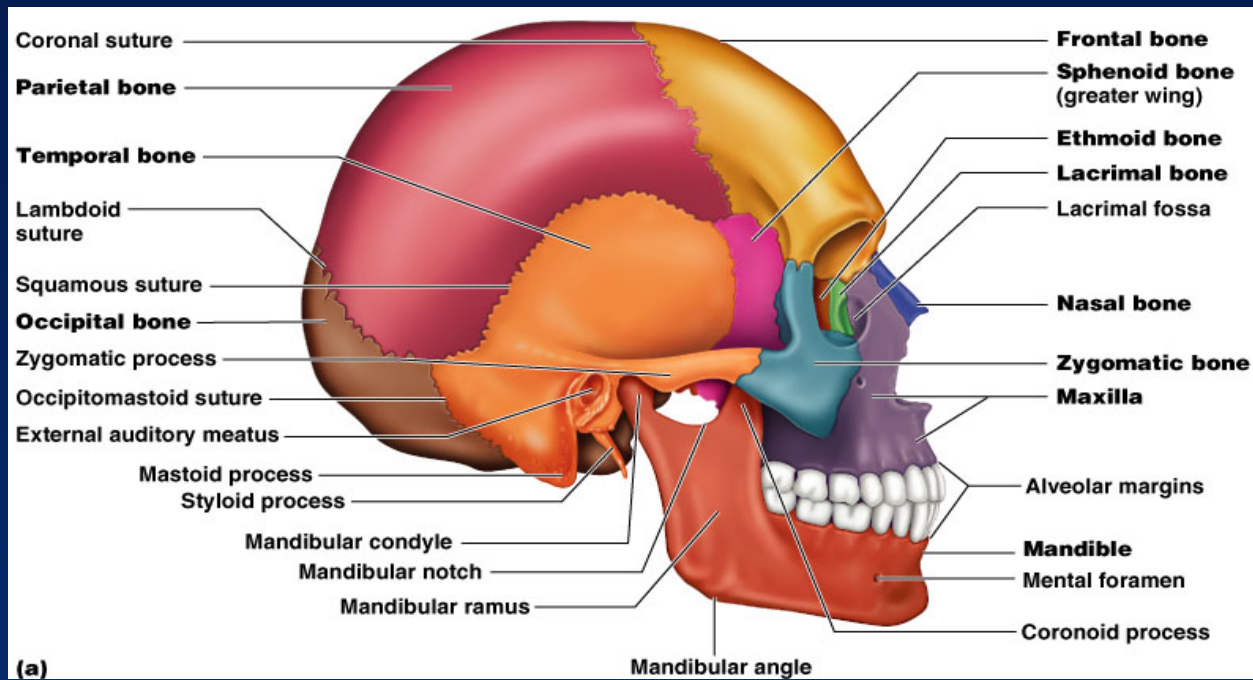


- Normal click ABR
- Abnormal or no click ABR

## Estimation of Frequency-Specific Auditory Thresholds with Tone Burst ABRs: Initial Data Points for Hearing Aid Fitting

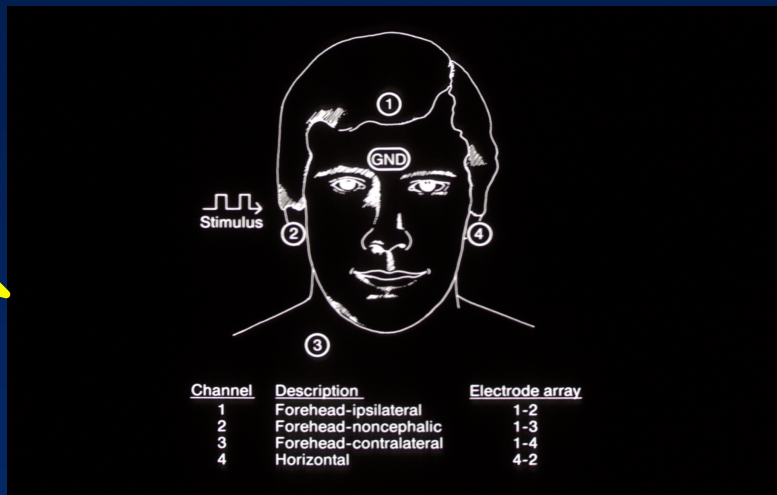
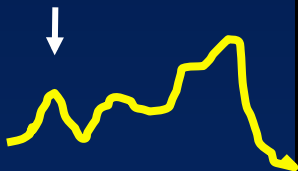


## Ear Specific Bone Conduction ABR Assessment: Clinically Feasible and Essential

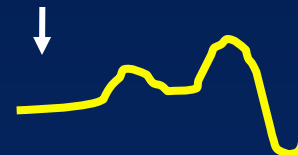


## Two-Channel Bone Conduction ABR Recording: Applying ECoG Principles to Verify the Test Ear

Ipsi Channel  
Wave I



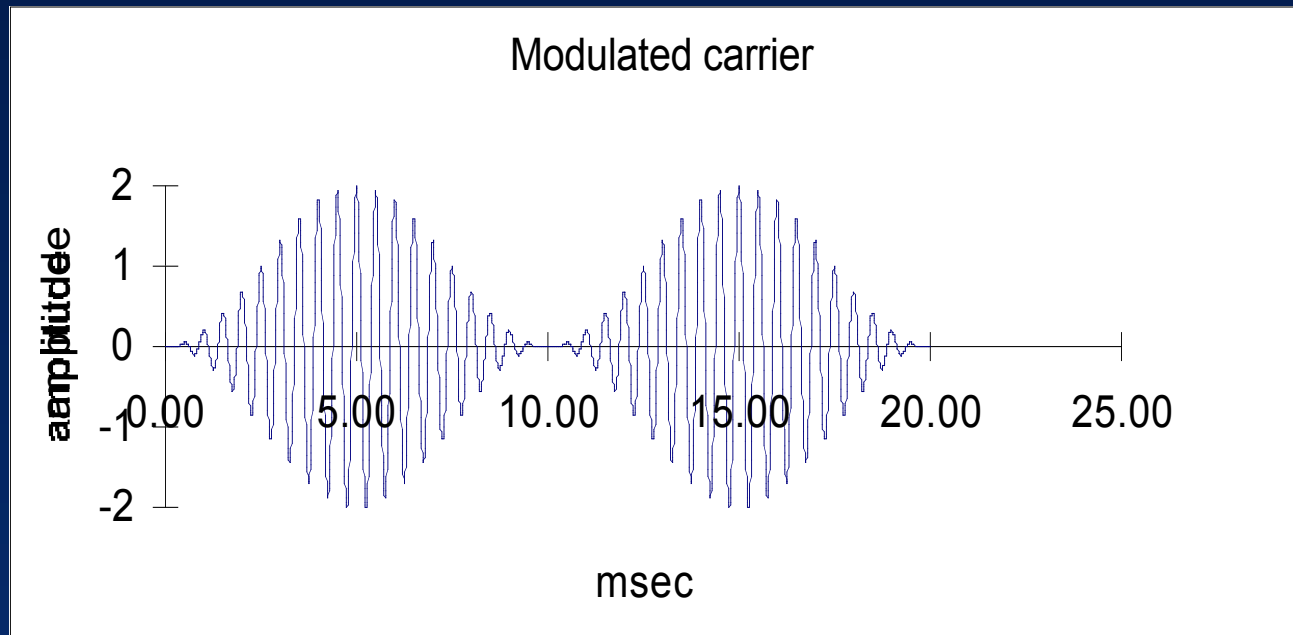
Contra Channel  
No Wave I



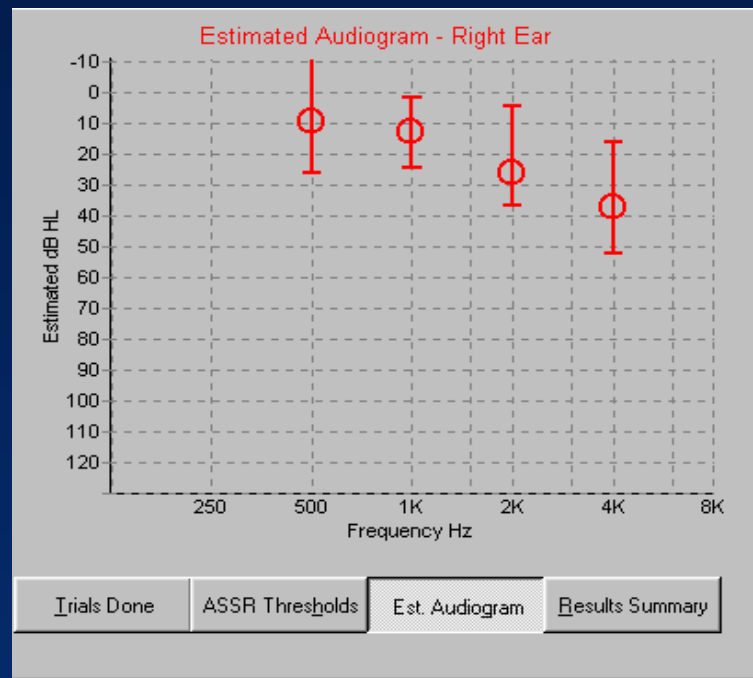
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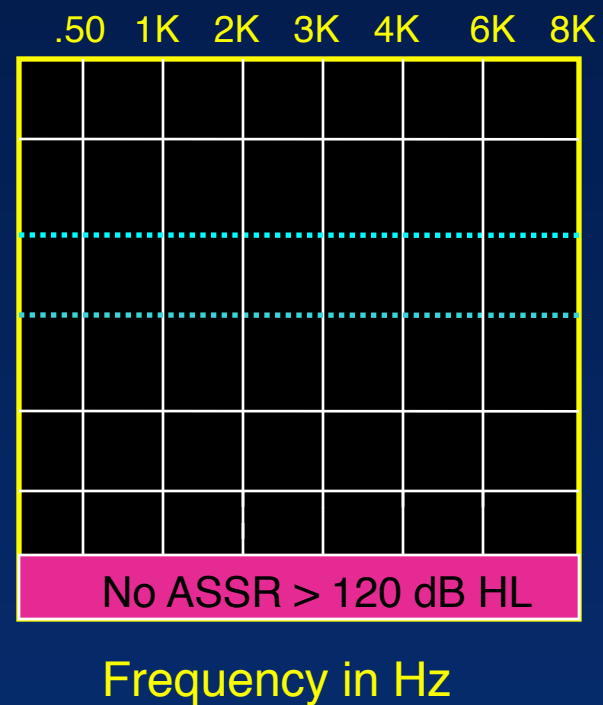
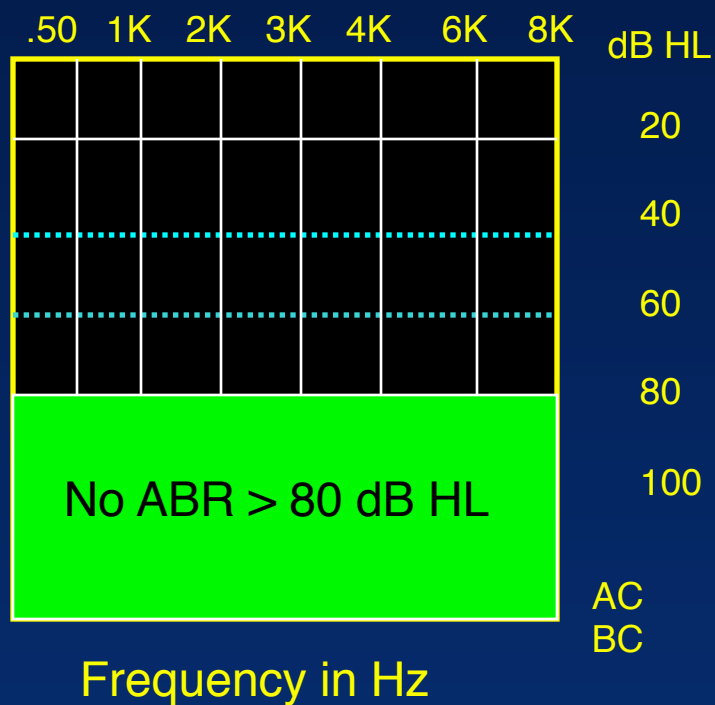
## **Auditory Steady State Response (ASSR): 2000 Hz tone modulated at rate of 100 Hz**



## Estimating the Audiogram with ASSR

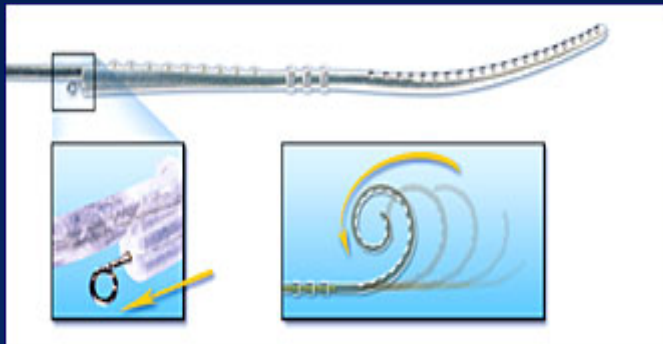


## Limitation of Tone Burst ABR and Advantage of ASSR in Severe-to-Profound Hearing Loss





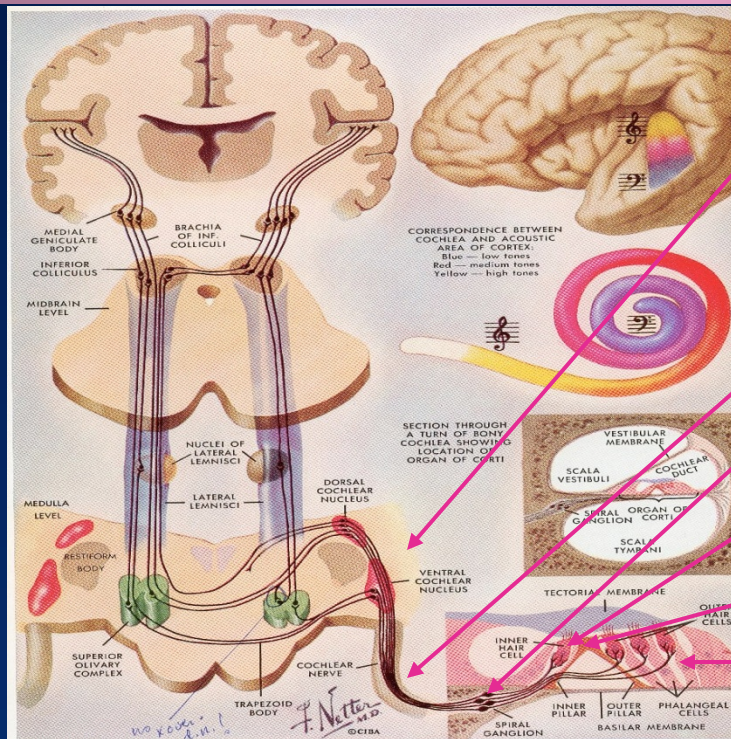
**ASSR Contributes to Timely Management of Infant Hearing Loss:  
Determining the Need for Cochlear Implants and  
Confirmation of 8<sup>th</sup> Nerve Integrity in ANSD**



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# ECochG in the Diagnosis and Management of Auditory Neuropathy Spectrum Disorder (ANSD)



Cerebello-pontine angle (CPA)

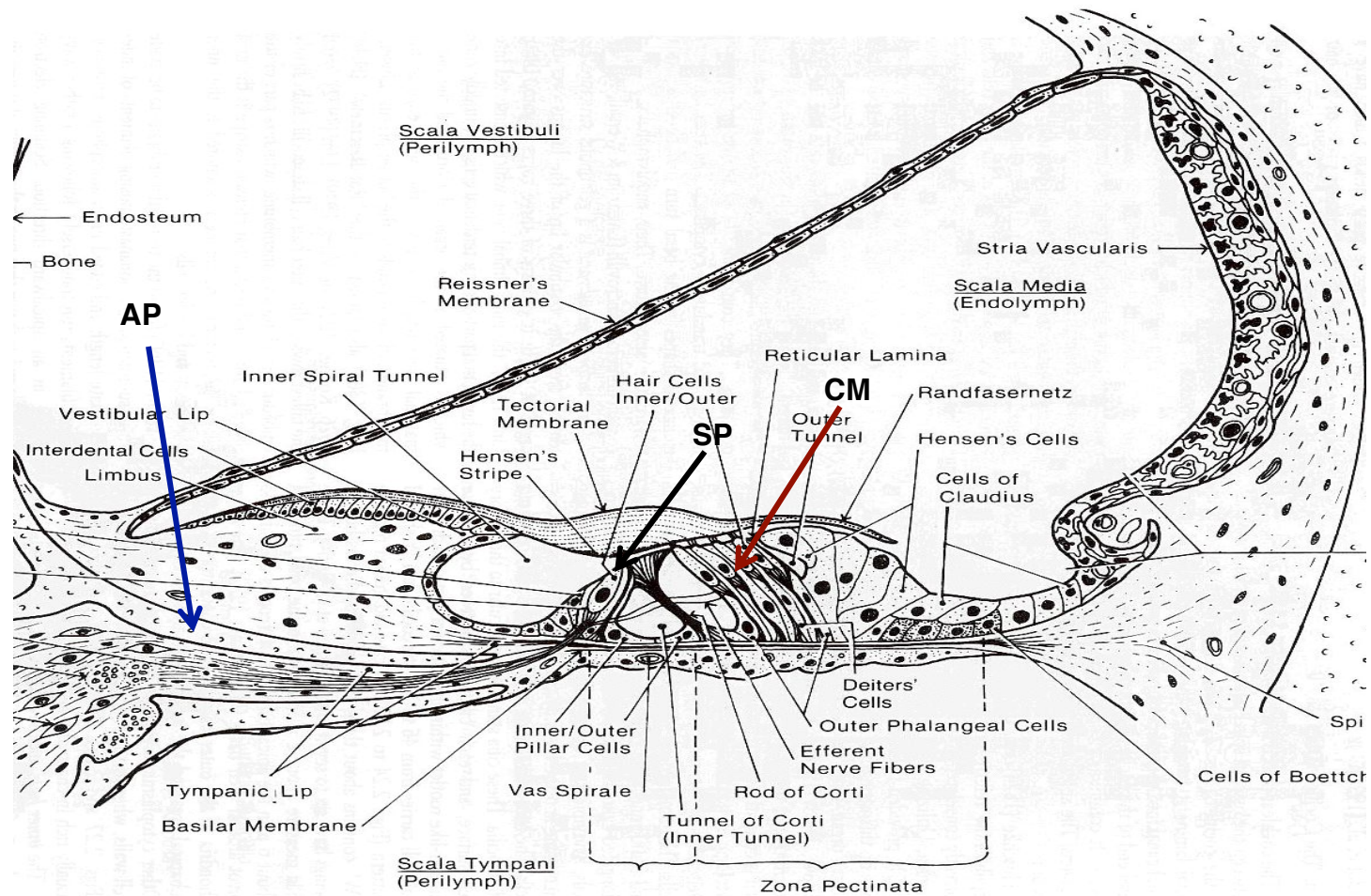
Internal Auditory Canal  
(Auditory Nerve)

Spiral ganglion cells

IHC - 8<sup>th</sup> CN Synapse  
(glutamate)

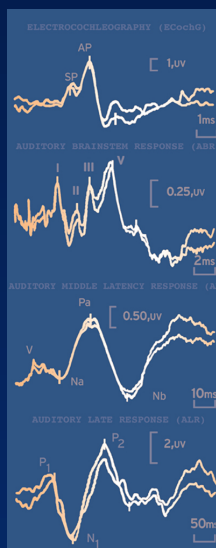
Inner hair cells

Outer hair cells





**Thank You!**  
**Questions?**



JAMES W. HALL III

NEW  
HANDBOOK  
of  
AUDITORY  
EVOKED  
RESPONSES

**Objective Assessment  
of Hearing**



James W. Hall, III  
De Wet Swanepoel

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