

NOISE LEVEL AT HEALTH CLINIC IN KLANG VALLEY: IMPLICATIONS FOR DISTRACTION HEARING SCREENING TEST

Rohaizatul Mat Yaacob

The purpose of this study was to determine noise level at 3 health clinics in Klang Valley according to frequency spectrum and average sound level for measurement period. This study was carried out using 2 noise measurement devices, which are sound level meter and dosimeter. Measurements were done 5 days in each clinic started from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day. The results were compared with the maximum permissible noise level for free field hearing testing (ANSI S3.1-1000 specification) and clinic activities for each clinic. The noise levels at all 3 clinics were found to exceed the maximum permissible noise level recommended by ANSI S3.1-1999 for free field hearing testing. One Way Anova test showed significant differences noise level between each clinic ($p < 0.05$). The noise level for different days in each clinic were also found to be significantly different ($p < 0.05$). Measurement of noise level using dosimeter recorded noise level between 49.6 dB A – 67 dB A with the highest noise level measured during children clinic day. While the lowest noise level measured when there were no activities in the clinic. The noise level recorded during different clinic activities were significantly different ($p < 0.05$). This study concluded that noise level in those clinics were too high for distraction hearing screening test to be done at health clinic in Klang Valley if 30 dB HL pass/fail criteria is use.

Mat Yaacob, R. 2001. Noise Level at Health Clinic in Klang Valley: Implications for Distraction Hearing Screening Test. Bachelor of Audiology Thesis. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.