

SPATIAL RELEASE FROM MASKING (SRM) IN NORMAL CHILDREN USING DIFFERENT TYPES OF NOISE

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The purpose of this study is to determine the effect of spatial release from masking in normal children aged 6 to 10 years old using different types of noise sounds. 30 Malay children were involved in this research. This research uses Malay Hearing in Noise Test (MyHINT) for children. There were 3 different types of noises, which are being used in this study. Those three noises were the speech noise, broadband noise and multiple talker speech. On the whole, descriptive analysis showed that the mean SRM value differs between those three noises. Statistical analysis showed that there is a significant different between SRM value for those three noises [$F(2,58) = 28.282, p < 0.001$]. Multiple talker speech and speech noise had a greater SRM effect compared to broadband noise when the signal and competing noise is spatially separated. Besides, statistical analysis revealed that there is a significant different in Reception Threshold for Speech (RTS) score between those three noises when the signal and the competing sound was coming from same direction (0° azimuth) and when the signal and competing sound is separated by 90° . It also revealed that speech noise and multiple talker speech had greater masking effect compared to broadband noise.

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