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PO Box 2323
Albany, NY 12220-0323
ara@audrehab.org

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Editorial

Invitation

I would like to invite you to read the six great articles in these two volumes. You should note that 2015 was combined with 2016.

I am the author of the sole paper in Volume XLVIII, which is a review of the sense of touch as it applies to pediatric and elderly adult populations with hearing loss. The paper describes the sensory and neural underpinnings of touch, changes in touch across the lifespan and how touch can influence the auditory (re)habilitation process and outcomes. Although no data are presented in the paper, I hope that the paper stimulates research and clinical ideas from readers.

The first two papers in Volume XLIX (by Kristen Molnar and Jessica Messersmith; and Giorgos Dritsakis, Rachel van Besouw, and Carl Verschuur) focus on music perception, how to best measure it in people who wear cochlear implants, and the impact of music on quality of life in cochlear implant users. The two papers are quite different in aims and approach but highlight the need to consider the range of sounds (including music) in the environments that are valued by listeners and how the rehabilitation process should consider listening in the broader acoustic context. The third paper by Jonathan Arthur, Philip Jones, Ruth Davies, Julie Slater and Tessa Watts compares hearing aid data-logging and the Glasgow Hearing Benefit Profile Questionnaire as potential outcomes measures. It highlights the importance of measuring the benefits of rehabilitation with various methods. The next paper by Tina Jupiter describes an intervention study where she fitted residents of a nursing home with hearing assistive technology and provided training. The paper is important because it clearly illustrates the challenges of working with older adults who have memory and other cognitive problems. The final paper by Richa Arya and Apama Nandurkar describes the rationale and procedures for developing a Hindi-based speech perception test for low-performing young children with severe-to-profound hearing loss. The format of the test was modeled after the Early Speech Perception test (Moog & Geers, 1990) but was adapted to meet the linguistic constraints of Hindi. The preliminary data presented by Arya and Nandurkar are promising and the paper is well worth a read, especially if you are interested in test construction, and multilingual and Hindi-speaking populations.

I also invite you to submit manuscripts to our new editor, Anne Olson from the University of Kentucky, and encourage you all to serve as reviewers whenever possible. Anne is doing a great job and contributing to the JARA review process will enhance the experience for her and the quality of the manuscripts that are published.

Sheila R. Pratt, Ph.D., Editor (2012-2016)

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