

Comparison of programmable and digital hearing aids benefit with using APHAB questionnaire

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Introduction: The use of digital hearing aid in the world is increasing and the potential of much debate. Benefit of this hearing aid are not defined. Therefore, the aim of this study was to measurement the digital hearing aid benefit and comparison it, with programmable hearing aid benefit

Materials and Methods: Forty interested subjects with the mean age of 52.12 with the of years range 30 to 70 with audiometric profiles consistent with hearing aid candidacy participated in this study. Programmable H.A was fit for 21 subjects and digital H.A for 19 subjects. Each subject was given the Abbreviated Profile of Hearing Aid Benefit (APHAB) to complete for unaided and aided conditions

Results: No statistically significant differences were found in the APHAB benefit scores between the hearing aid sets ($P=0.051$). but digital H.A were significantly better programmable H.A on one of the four subscales ($P=0.02$)

Conclusion: The APHAB scores did not indicate clear difference between the systems, despite potential advantages of digital H.A over analog and programmable H.A

.Keywords: Programmable Hearing aid, Digital Hearing aid, Benefit, APHAB