

## N° 7465

SINGLE SIDE DEAFNESS IN ADULTS: COCHELAR IMPLANT OUTCOMES Graça Cristina Cardoso de Oliveira<sup>1</sup>, Helena Gabriela Fiúza Alves<sup>2</sup>, João Elói Gonçalves Pereira de Moura<sup>3</sup>, Jorge Miguel Eva Miguéis<sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup>Audiologist <sup>2</sup>Speech Therapist <sup>3</sup>Coordinator of the Cochlear Implant Reference Center

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BACKGROUND: The Cochlear Implant (CI) is considered the gold standard treatment for severe to profound hearing loss without benefit with conventional hearing aids. Nevertheless, there is still low results and concordance on the indication and application of a cochlear implants in patients with Single Side Deafness (SSD), which leads to the need to investigate the real CI benefits in the adult population.

OBJECTIVE: It was pretended to assess the beneficts of cochlear implants in adults with adquired single side deafness.

PLACE OF APPLICATION: The data was colected in ULS coimbra, envolving adults with single side deafness users of cochlear implant, after one and six months of implantation.

DESIGN: Assessment of cochlear implant users with audiometry and discrimination tests, as well as informal questionaire.

POPULATION: This study was conducted in ULS coimbra and envolved a125 adults with single side deafness who use cochlear implant, during the process of auditory reahabilitation (one and six months after the activation of the CI processor).

METHOD: To collect the data, we assess 125 adults (male and female) with single side deafness implant in our center, with audiometry and discriminations tests and informal questionaire, one and six months after cochlear implant activation.

RESULTS: After the use of the ochlear implant, the results of audiometric tests showed that individuals present hearing thresholds within the "normal" values in the implanted ear, resulting in an improvement in sound localization and speech perception. Discrimination tests showed that individuals can achieve high levels of auditory discrimination. Furthermore, improvements in everyday communication and speech understanding in noisy environments have been reported for the majority of the patients. CONCLUSIONS: After analyzing the results of the tests and of the questionaires, it was concluded that the cochlear implant, in adults with unilateral deafness, allows an improvement in hearing guality, sound localization and, consequently, in the guality of life of individuals, as they reported significant increasement in the day life.