

Research Team Studies Diagnosis of Hearing Loss in BC

A UBC research team is working with the Children's Hearing & Speech Centre of BC and the BC Early Hearing Program to better understand the hearing status of children who receive services from early intervention programs in BC. The team hopes to learn more about:

- When hearing losses are usually identified (at what age).
- What kinds and degrees of hearing losses children have.
- What kinds of services children and their families have used.
- What ways children are ready for school.

How will this information be gathered?

To gather this information, one project assistant will be reviewing program files with the help of a staff person at the Centre. No individual names will be collected. No children's files will leave the Centre. In this way, the researchers at UBC will not know who the children are. The information will only be studied at a group level.

How will this information be studied and used?

To learn about ways children are ready for school, the information gathered may be combined with other types of development and education information. This information can only be used for research or statistical purposes. The information gathered will not change any services or treatment for your child.

The researchers will summarize the information for others, including the Children's Hearing & Speech Centre of BC. The information will be collected, used and shared only as allowed by law—the *BC Personal Information Protection Act*. All data will be stored in UBC's secure data facility. The Provincial Health Services Authority pays for this project.

Who can you contact for more information?

If you have any questions about this project, you can contact Joy Nucich (telephone: 604.437.0255 voice, 604.437.1251 tty; email: info@childrenshearing.ca) or Dr. Brenda Poon (telephone: 604.822.3560; e-mail: brenda.poon@ubc.ca).

If you have any concerns about your treatment or rights as a research subject, you may phone the Research Subject Information Line at the University of British Columbia: 604.822.8598.

Why is this information helpful?

This information can help us learn more about the timing that hearing losses have been found, as well as ways that children with different kinds of hearing losses have been supported. The information gathered may help early intervention programs in BC continue to plan services that meet the needs of children with hearing losses and their families.

Research Team Members

Dr. Brenda Poon, Assistant Professor, Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), UBC.

Dr. Janet Jamieson, Professor, Department of Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education, UBC.

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Dr. Clyde Hertzman, Professor, Director, Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP), UBC.