

# Hearing and Cognition



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**Ifos World Course on Hearing Rehabilitation  
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# From Hearing to Cognition

**How to screen cognitive deficits in the elderly**

**What does it mean for presbycusis management**



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## ***From Hearing Sensitivity to Cognition***

- Hearing =  
*hearing sensitivity*  
+ *auditory*  
*processing***
  
- PTA alone don't  
tell you much**
  
- Strong  
interaction with  
cognition**
  
- Cognitive  
reservoir depends  
on hearing**

- **1989**: First reported association between hearing loss (HL) and dementia (**Uhlmann et al.** *J of the Am Med Assoc*)
- Not much data until **2011** and the research conducted by **Frank Lin and colleagues** at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, USA

## Hearing Loss and Incident Dementia

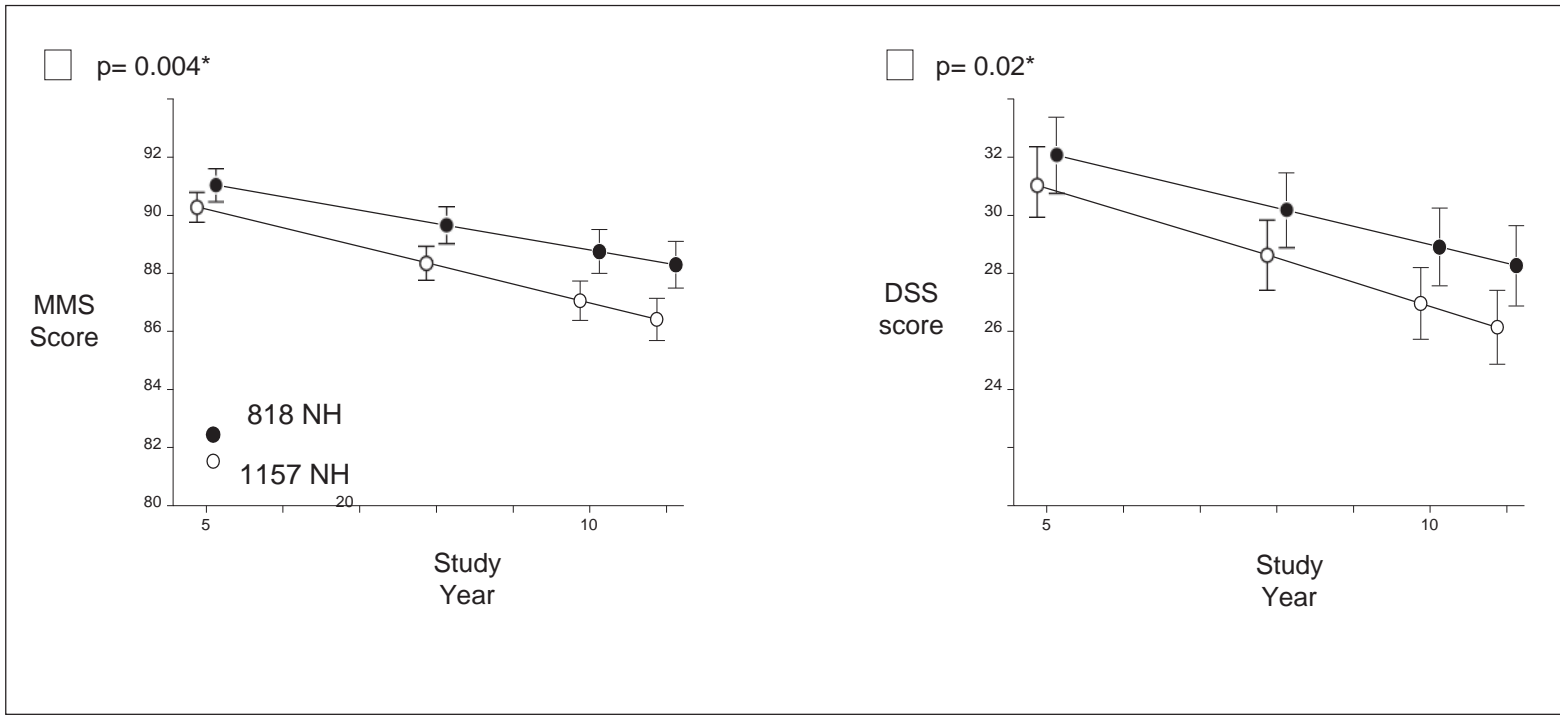
Frank R. Lin, MD PhD<sup>1</sup>, E. Jeffrey Metter, MD<sup>2</sup>, Richard J. O'Brien, MD PhD<sup>3</sup>, Susan M. Resnick, PhD<sup>4</sup>, Alan B. Zonderman, PhD<sup>4</sup>, and Luigi Ferrucci, MD PhD<sup>2</sup>

- Prospective study of 640 participants (age 36 – 90 y) w no dementia in 1990' || follow-up of 12 yrs, 58 cases of incident all-cause dementia (IACD), including 37 Alzheimer Disease cases (AD)
- Risk of IACD ↗ linearly with HL severity (1.27 per 10 db loss)
- Hazard ratio for IACD = **1.89** for mild HL, **3.00** for moderate HL, and **4.94** for severe HL
- HL is independently associated with IACD

# Hearing Loss and Cognitive Decline in Older Adults

Frank R. Lin, MD, PhD; Kristine Yaffe, MD; Jin Xia, MS; Qian-Li Xue, PhD; Tamara B. Harris, MD, MS; Elizabeth Purchase-Helzner, PhD; Suzanne Satterfield, MD, DrPH; Hilsa N. Ayonayon, PhD; Luigi Ferrucci, MD, PhD; Eleanor M. Simonsick, PhD; for the Health ABC Study Group

*JAMA Intern Med.* 2013;173(4):293-299.



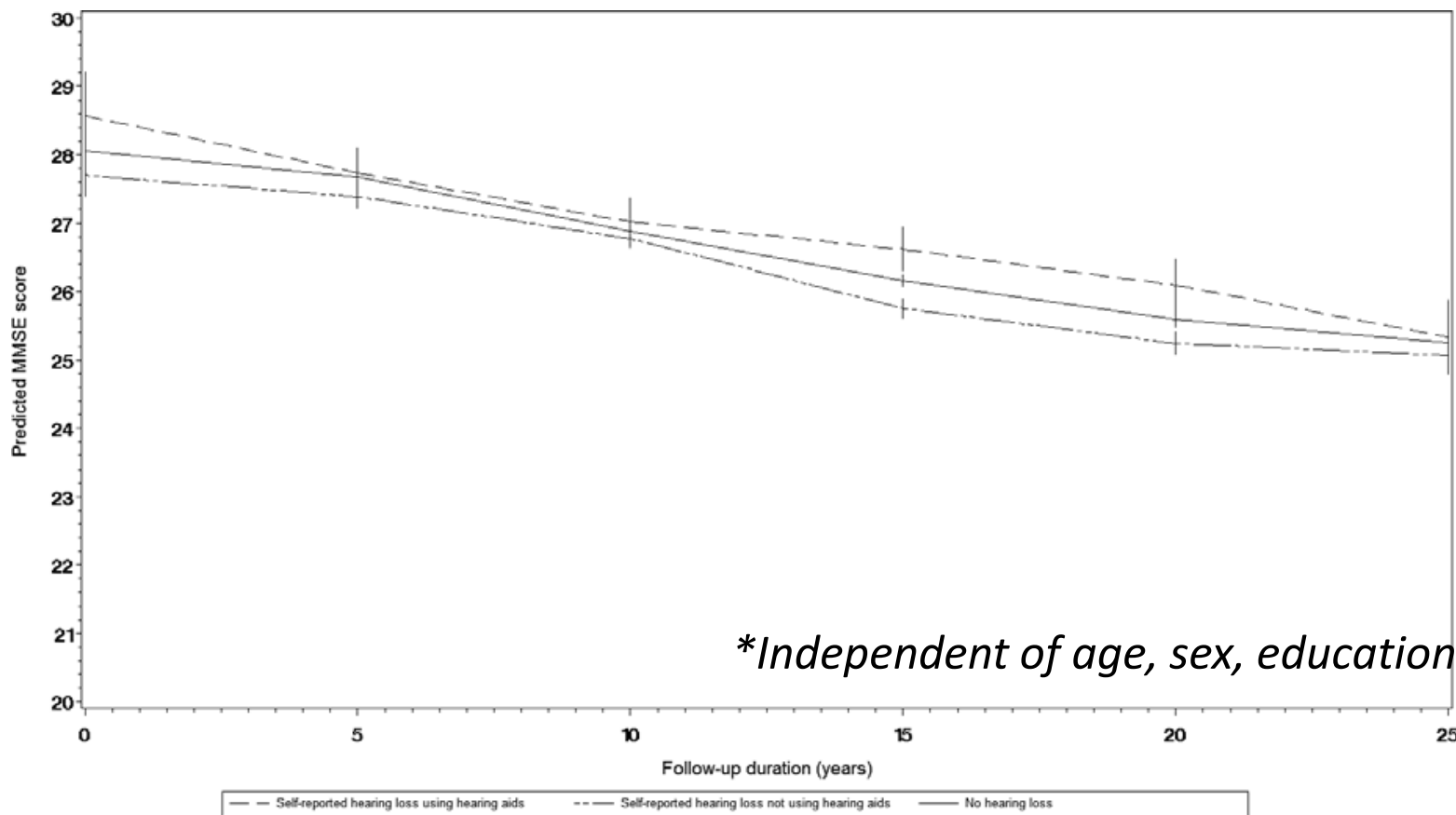
## **Rates of cognitive decline depending on hearing status: 11 yr-follow-up**

*\*Adjusted for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education, study site, smoking status, Hypertension, diabetes mellitus, and stroke history*

# Self-Reported Hearing Loss, Hearing Aids, and Cognitive Decline in Elderly Adults: A 25-Year Study

*Hélène Amieva, PhD, Camille Ouvrard, MSc, Caroline Giulioli, MSc, Céline Meillon, MSc, Laetitia Rullier, PhD, and Jean-François Dartigues, MD, PhD*

*J Am Geriatr Soc 63:2099–2104, 2015*



***Estimated change in Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) score over 25 years of follow-up (N = 3.670)***

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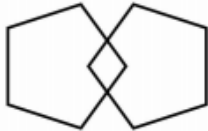


# MINI MENTAL STATE EXAMINATION (MMSE)

Has been used for decades as the gold standard for screening neuropsychiatric disorders

Quick and easy, normal score > 26

Low sensitivity in screening of mild cognitive impairment (MCI)

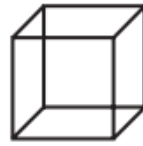
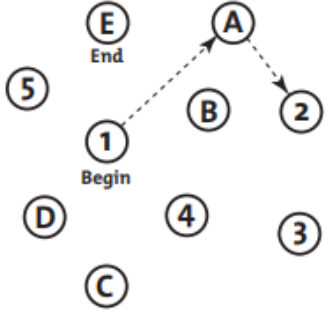

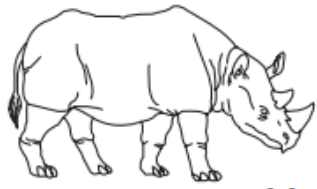
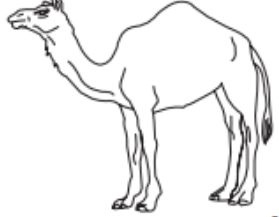
One point for each answer	DATE:		
<b>ORIENTATION</b> Year    Season    Month    Date    Time  Country    Town    District    Hospital    Ward/Floor	...../ 5	...../ 5	...../ 5
<b>REGISTRATION</b> Examiner names three objects (e.g. apple, table, penny) and asks the patient to repeat (1 point for each correct. THEN the patient learns the 3 names repeating until correct).	...../ 3	...../ 3	...../ 3
<b>ATTENTION AND CALCULATION</b> Subtract 7 from 100, then repeat from result. Continue five times: 100, 93, 86, 79, 65. (Alternative: spell "WORLD" backwards: DLROW).	...../ 5	...../ 5	...../ 5
<b>RECALL</b> Ask for the names of the three objects learned earlier.	...../ 3	...../ 3	...../ 3
<b>LANGUAGE</b> Name two objects (e.g. pen, watch).  Repeat "No ifs, ands, or buts".  Give a three-stage command. Score 1 for each stage. (e.g. "Place index finger of right hand on your nose and then on your left ear").  Ask the patient to read and obey a written command on a piece of paper. The written instruction is: "Close your eyes".  Ask the patient to write a sentence. Score 1 if it is sensible and has a subject and a verb.	...../ 2  ...../ 1  ...../ 3  ...../ 1  ...../ 1	...../ 2  ...../ 1  ...../ 3  ...../ 1  ...../ 1	...../ 2  ...../ 1  ...../ 3  ...../ 1  ...../ 1
<b>COPYING:</b> Ask the patient to copy a pair of intersecting pentagons  	...../ 1	...../ 1	...../ 1
<b>TOTAL:</b>	...../ 30	...../ 30	...../ 30

## MMSE scoring

24-30: no cognitive impairment  
18-23: mild cognitive impairment  
0-17: severe cognitive impairment

**MONTREAL COGNITIVE ASSESSMENT (MOCA)**

NAME : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Education : \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sex : \_\_\_\_\_ DATE : \_\_\_\_\_

<b>VISUOSPATIAL / EXECUTIVE</b>		 Copy cube [ ] [ ]					Draw CLOCK (Ten past eleven) (3 points) [ ] [ ] [ ] Contour Numbers Hands	POINTS
 [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]								
<b>NAMING</b>		 [ ]  [ ]  [ ]						
<b>MEMORY</b>	Read list of words, subject must repeat them. Do 2 trials. Do a recall after 5 minutes.		FACE	VELVET	CHURCH	DAISY	RED	No points
		1st trial						
		2nd trial						
<b>ATTENTION</b>	Read list of digits (1 digit/ sec.). Subject has to repeat them in the forward order [ ] 2 1 8 5 4 Subject has to repeat them in the backward order [ ] 7 4 2							___/2
	Read list of letters. The subject must tap with his hand at each letter A. No points if ≥ 2 errors [ ] FBACMNAAJKLBAFAKDEAAAJAMOF AAB							___/1
	Serial 7 subtraction starting at 100 [ ] 93 [ ] 86 [ ] 79 [ ] 72 [ ] 65 4 or 5 correct subtractions: 3 pts, 2 or 3 correct: 2 pts, 1 correct: 1 pt, 0 correct: 0 pt							___/3
<b>LANGUAGE</b>	Repeat : I only know that John is the one to help today. [ ] The cat always hid under the couch when dogs were in the room. [ ]							___/2
	Fluency / Name maximum number of words in one minute that begin with the letter F [ ] _____ (N ≥ 11 words)							___/1
<b>ABSTRACTION</b>	Similarity between e.g. banana - orange = fruit [ ] train - bicycle [ ] watch - ruler							___/2
<b>DELAYED RECALL</b>	Has to recall words WITH NO CUE	FACE	VELVET	CHURCH	DAISY	RED	Points for UNCUE recall only	___/5
	Category cue	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]		
Optional	Multiple choice cue							
<b>ORIENTATION</b>	[ ] Date [ ] Month [ ] Year [ ] Day [ ] Place [ ] City							___/6

❑ Designed in Montreal (Nasreddine et al., 2005)

❑ Also normal if score > 26

❑ 11 distinct tests

❑ Targetting mental flexibility, 3D visuospatial processing, categorization skills

	MMSE	MOCA
<b>Orientation</b>	✓	✓
<b>Abstraction</b>	x	✓
<b>Memory</b>		
- Free Recall	✓	✓
- Cued recall	x	✓
- Recognition	x	✓
<b>Visuospatial Praxis</b>		
- Copy	✓	✓
- Clock test	x	✓
<b>Attention</b>		
- Digit series	x	✓
- Reverse digit series	x	✓
- Letter series	x	✓
- Countdown	✓	✓
<b>Executive (visual)</b>	x	✓
<b>Language</b>		
- Repetition	✓	✓
- Reading	✓	x
- Writing	✓	x
- Comprehension	✓	x
- Fluency	x	✓
<b>Denomination</b>		
- Real object	✓	x
- Image	x	✓

## Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE) vs Montreal Cognitive assessment (MoCA)

	MMSE	MoCA
RELEVANT ITEMS	9	15

MoCA's sensitivity in detecting MCI reaches 90%, far superior to the MMSE's sensitivity (18%).

*Zadikoff et al., 2008*

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# Take home messages

- I) **Do the MoCa but do it properly**
- II) Consider all possible co-morbidities
- III) Test both hearing sensitivity and central auditory processes



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# Development of Cognitive Screening Test for the Severely Hearing Impaired: Hearing-Impaired MoCA

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Vincent Y. W. Lin, MD, FRCSC; Janet Chung, MD, FRCSC; Brandy L. Callahan, PhD, Psych;  
Leah Smith, MA, CCRA; Nils Gritters, BSc (Hons); Joseph M. Chen, MD, FRCSC;  
Sandra E. Black, OC, O.Ont. MD, FRSC, FAAN, FANA; Mario Masellis, MSc, MD, PhD, FRCPC

*Laryngoscope 2017;173(4):293-299.*

- MoCa requires verbal instructions that cannot be taken by the severely hearing impaired
- Lower MoCa scores in subjects with mild/moderate HL compared to NH (*Dupuis et al., Neuropsychol Dev Cogn B Aging Neuropsychol Cogn 2015*)

# Take home messages

- I) Do the MoCa but do it properly
- II) **Consider all possible co-morbidities**
- III) Test both hearing sensitivity and central auditory processes







## Hearing Loss is Associated With Risk of Alzheimer's Disease: A Case-Control Study in Older People

N= 488 subjects  $\geq$  65 yr with newly diagnosed AD vs 1952 subjects without AD from 1998–2011

### Odds ratios of Alzheimer's disease associated with hearing loss and other co-morbidities

Variable	Crude		Adjusted <sup>a</sup>	
	OR	(95% CI)	OR	(95% CI)
Sex (male vs female)	1.00	(0.82–1.22)	—	
Age (per 1 year increment)	1.04	(1.02–1.06)	1.03	(1.01–1.05)
Co-morbidities before index date				
Hearing loss	1.56	(1.19–2.04)	1.39	(1.05–1.84)
Cerebrovascular disease	1.05	(0.78–1.41)	—	
Chronic kidney disease	1.19	(0.79–1.78)	—	
Depression	2.16	(1.55–3.00)	1.68	(1.19–2.39)
Diabetes mellitus	1.41	(1.14–1.75)	1.23	(0.98–1.55)
Head injury	2.74	(1.76–4.27)	2.31	(1.46–3.66)
Hypertension	1.70	(1.35–2.13)	1.40	(1.10–1.79)
Hyperlipidemia	1.30	(1.03–1.62)	1.08	(0.84–1.37)
Parkinson's disease	5.45	(3.17–9.37)	4.44	(2.54–7.78)

CI, confidence interval; OR, odds ratio.

## **The Prevalence of Peripheral and Central Hearing Impairment and Its Relation to Cognition in Older Adults**

N= 488 subjects  $\geq 65$  yr (mean age 72.8 years)

- Prevalence of a HL  $\geq 25$  dB HL = 64%
- Prevalence of Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD) = 14 %
- MCI significantly associated with hearing impairment (CAPD and hearing threshold; odds ratio 1.6,  $p = 0.05$ )
- AD significantly associated with CAPD (odds ratio 4.2,  $p = 0.05$ )
- Up to 80% of MCI patients convert to AD  $\leftrightarrow$  adding auditory tests to cognitive screening can help early diagnosis of cognitive decline

# Take home messages

- I) Do the MoCa but do it properly
- II) Consider all possible co-morbidities
- III) Test both hearing sensitivity and central auditory processes**

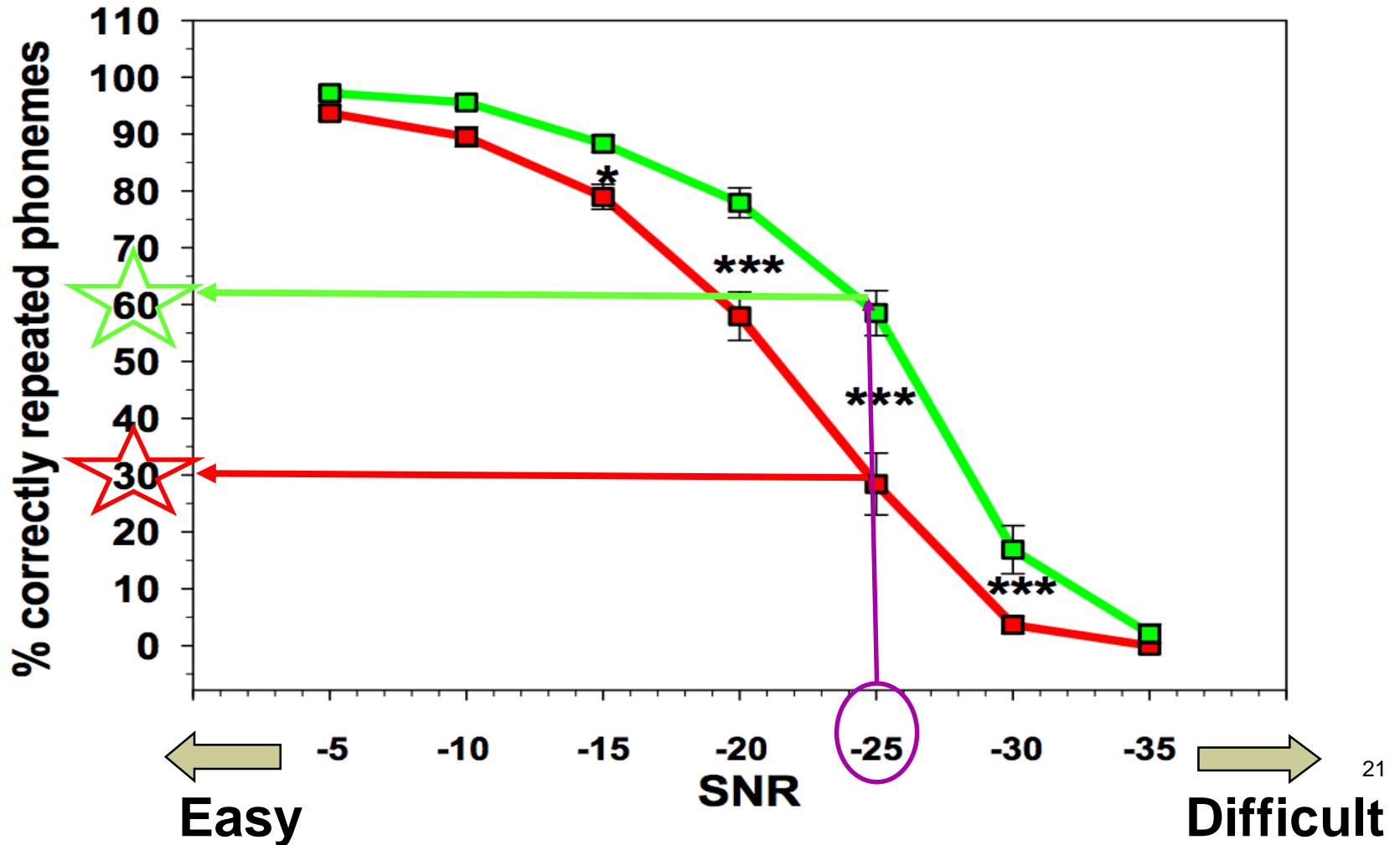


## **CENTRAL AUDITORY PROCESSING ASSESSMENT**

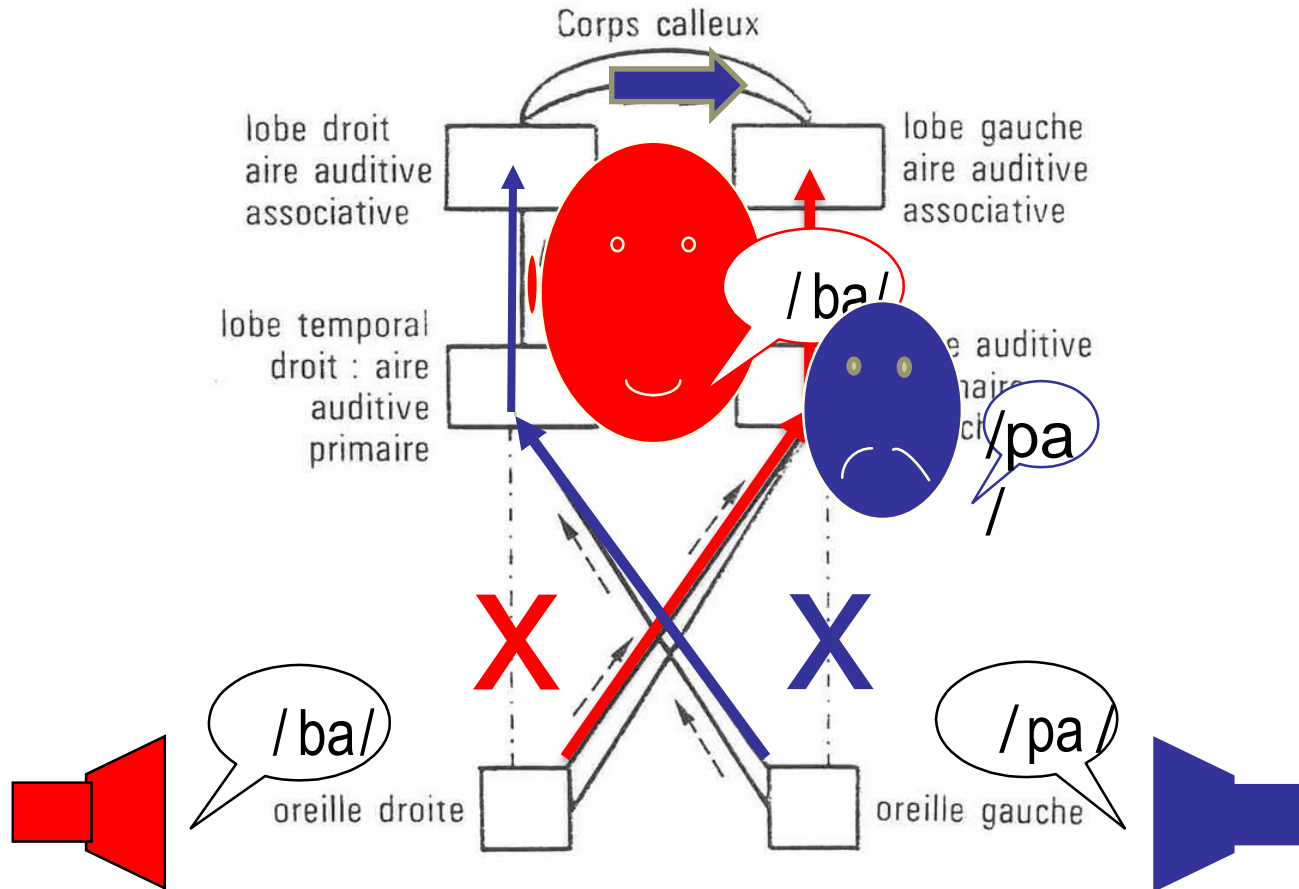
- Listening in Noise (1)
- Dichotic listening (2)
- Temporal resolution
- Pattern recognition (pitch & duration)

# LISTENING IN NOISE

- CAPD subjects
- Normal central auditory processes
- \*Adjusted for PTA scores*



# DICHOTIC TEST



# Key points for management

- Most recent studies report adjusted odds ratio of Alzheimer's disease  $\geq 1.3$  in people with HL
- In case of abnormal MoCa, refer to a trained professional for formal neuropsychological assessment

# Key points for management

➤ CAPD affect up to 70% of older adults

(Golding et al, Blue mountain hearing study, J Am Acad Audiol, 2004)

<b>Listening strategies</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> actions on sound environment (↘ noise level)
<b>Listening devices</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> FM devices; directional microphone (↗ SNR)
<b>Auditory training</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Audiovisual tek, serious games; Onsite or remote training
<b>Special needs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Personalized medicine (e.g ., attention deficits)





*Thank you!*

