Each year thousands of children with hearing loss and related communication disorders come to Boys Town National Research Hospital from across the United States for care. Countless others are touched by advances in diagnosis and treatment, parent training, professional education programs and world-class research carried out by the Hospital’s clinicians, scientists and educators.

The Lied Learning and Technology Center for Childhood Deafness and Vision Disorders enhances the work of the Hospital by enabling it to reach even more children and families with state-of-the-art facilities for education, service, research and the distribution of up-to-date information to parents and professionals.

Research Opportunities for Cochlear Implant Recipients

BOYS TOWN NATIONAL RESEARCH HOSPITAL

Cochlear Implant Program at the Lied Learning & Technology Center
What is this research about?
The purpose of this research is to compare “behavioral” measurements with “electrophysiological” measures made with a cochlear implant. “Behavioral” measures are when you tell us certain things about sound you hear with your cochlear implant. For example, can you tell the difference between two pitches? “Electrophysiological” measures can be made without you having to listen or pay attention. These are measures recorded from your hearing nerve through your cochlear implant. You can sleep, read, or watch TV when these measures are being made. You do not have to do anything!

Who can participate?
We are looking for adults and children (ages 11 and up) to participate in this research project. To be eligible, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a proficient English speaker
- Have a cochlear implant with telemetry capabilities. (If you are not sure what kind of implant you have, ask your audiologist.)
- Have the ability to complete speech perception tests. (These are tests where you listen to words or sentences and repeat them back.)

Who is doing this research and where is it being done?
This research is being conducted by Dr. Michelle Hughes, Coordinator of the Cochlear Implant Program, in the Cochlear Implant Research Laboratory at the Lied Learning and Technology Center.

Will I get compensation for this research?
If you decide to participate in this research, you will be paid $15.00 per hour, plus additional compensation for those traveling 50 miles or more.

How much time is involved?
Test sessions last between 2 and 4 hours. The “electrophysiological” test sessions will take between 1-6 sessions (or visits) to complete. The behavioral test sessions will take between 2-10 visits to complete. All of this testing may be completed over the course of 2 years. You may participate in some or all of the tests.

How can I get more information?
To receive more information, please contact:
Michelle Hughes, Ph.D., CCC-A
Boys Town National Research Hospital
Cochlear Implant Program
Lied Learning and Technology Center
425 North 30th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68131
(402) 452-5038 or michelle.hughes@boystown.org