



PERSPECTIVES on

Hearing and Hearing Disorders in Childhood



AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION **DIVISION 9**

Judith L. Curtin

Coordinator's Corner

The talk is all around today about evidenced-based practice (EBP). ASHA's National Center for Evidence-Based Practice, led by Rob Mullen, will be training volunteer professionals in conducting systematic literature reviews and evaluating the levels of evidence. This switch from a "consensus approach" to evidence-based will drive ASHA best practice guidelines. Division 9 Perspectives will support ASHA in this practice. What is the evidence? How do we verify outcomes and then what is the best way to validate our outcomes? What are our practitioners doing today in the field? Is the latest research making its way into clinical practice?

Is the latest research based on a high level of evidence or is it "popular hearsay"? Pediatric hearing aid fitting is serious business; the outcome affects a person's future.

I hope this issue of Perspectives gives some answers or begins to answer some of those questions. To move forward in our field, we have to look at where we are today.

Division 9 is so proud to publish results of a much needed survey on "Current Practices in Pediatric Amplification and Early Intervention" submitted by Kristina Rigsby, MS, a Vanderbilt doctoral candidate under the

mentorship of Tamala Bradham, PhD, William Dickerson, AuD, and H. Gustav Mueller, PhD.

Sheila Pratt, Kelly Schnoor, and Melissa Friedman explore "Speech Production as a Measure of Hearing Aid Benefit in Infants and Young Children." Their paper explores the link between auditory input and speech motor control and the impact of linear hearing aids versus wide dynamic range compression, using speech production as a measure of effectiveness.

New With This Issue

You can now submit your responses to CE questions online!

Using an interactive online form on our secure Web site, you can complete the response form and get immediate feedback, including a Certificate of Completion. See the new instructions at the back of this issue for details!

In This Issue. . .

Coordinator's Corner	1
Current Practices in Pediatric Amplification and Early Intervention	3
Validating Outcomes and Supporting Our Youngest Patients' Development	8
Hearing Aid Outcome Measures for School Age Children	
Speech Production as a Measure of Hearing Aid Benefit in Infants and Young Children With Hearing Loss	15
Resource Guide for Outcome Measures	20
CE instructions and forms (Attachments)	