**LIST OF CHANGES TO MANUSCRIPT**

**RE: SPEECH PERCEPTION IN NOISE AND BILATERAL SPATIAL ABILITIES IN ADULTS WITH DELAYED SEQUENTIAL COCHLEAR IMPLANTATION**

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Changes have been made to the manuscript based on reviewer comments. Please note the page and paragraph numbers in this document refer to the supplementary file which contains the revised manuscript which reflects the track changes.

**SPECIFIC REVIEWER COMMENTS**

**COMMENT 1:** Please reduce the number of references to no more than 35. Please also check all references as there are still several in text errors, e.g. Pg 4: Tyler, Dunn, Witt and Noble (2007).; pg 3: Balkany, Hodges, Telischi, Hoffma, (delete fullstop), Madell, Parisier et al.

***Response:*** Number of references was reduced to 35. Reference errors on page 3 (paragraph 1, line 6) and page 4 (paragraph 1, line 7) referred to in the comment was corrected accordingly.

**COMMENT 2:** Please change 'subjects' to 'participants' throughout as these terms as used inconsistently throughout and the journal favours use of participant. Also please try to use person centred language throughout, e.g, sequentially implanted adults would read better as 'adults who received their implants sequentially...

***Response:*** The word ‘subjects’ was replaced with ‘participants’ throughout as requested. Person centred language was used as suggested – please see page 3, paragraph 4, line 1 as well as page 12, paragraph 2, line 1.

**COMMENT 3:** ABSTRACT: Please add a sentence or two in the abstract to describe the procedures employed.The abstract should be stand-alone and thus please put the abbreviations in full (and parentheses) here. Under results, line 2 and 3, "However' should not be used to start the sentence; Rather: ... and in the speech and noise spatially listening condition (0.78dB), however this was not...  Following sentence: An improvement... indicates (not indicate)... Please reduce the number of keywords to no more than 7 in line with the guidelines for authors.

***Response:*** A description of the procedure was inserted at *Study design* as requested. Abbreviations were used in full and parentheses – please see at *Study design* and *Results*. The sentences under *Results*, line 2 and 3, were changed as suggested; also in line 5 ‘indicate’ was changed to ‘indicates’. The keywords were reduced to 7 terms.

**COMMENT 4:** Introduction: para 3: Please reword this sentence for clarity: In the South African context simultaneous implantation is not yet widely employed, specifically. (is not yet routinely employed?) Next sentence also needs rewording: Of the all patients??? Should be of all the patients? Please also reword the sentence beginning: To date, the Tygerberg programme is the only programme... as this is ambiguous.

***Response:*** The sentence, ‘In the South African context simultaneous implantation…’ on page 3, paragraph 3, line 5, was revised as requested as well as the next sentence. The sentence on page 3, paragraph 3, line 8 was also revised as suggested.

**COMMENT 5:** Pg 4, para 2: please reword the sentence beginning: Thus as bilateral implantation in adults... the question arises: (and then reword the questions which is also ambigous as it stands).

***Response:*** The sentence on page 4, paragraph 2, line 8 was reworded as requested. The following sentence (with the question) was also reworded – please see page 4, paragraph 2, lines 9 - 11.

**COMMENT 6:** The figure captions for Figure 1, 2, and 3 are incorrect; Should be: Test setup to determine...

***Response:*** The figure captions for Figure 1 to 3 were corrected. Please see page 5.