

An editorial note on Tinnitus Induction A Departure from Tradition

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ABSTRACT

idely believed that tinnitus results from a hyperactive state in neurons of the central auditory system. Hyperactivity is observed at multiple levels of the auditory system in animals and humans with tinnitus but has been most thoroughly investigated in the dorsal cochlear nucleus (DCN), which lies in the lower brain stem. Repeated measures ANOVAs were utilized to investigate interaction effects of condition and group for the Stroop and Vigilance tasks.

Keywords: Tinnitus; Audiology; Hearing Disorders; Bibliometrics

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Editorial Note

It shown that about 50 percent of CI users remain aware of their tinnitus and about 25 percent still experience troublesome tinnitus. “Interestingly, it is reported that a substantial amount of unilaterally implanted patients with bilateral hearing loss reported their tinnitus to be their primary concern after implantation.

The majority of IAC and cerebellopontine angle (CPA) lesions are benign tumors, such as meningioma and vestibular schwannoma. Less than one percent of CPA lesions involve metastases to the IAC, with the most common sources being breast cancer, lung cancer, gastric cancer, and melanoma. The possible routes of temporal bone metastasis are hematogenous dissemination, direct extension from local preexisting lesions, and leptomeningeal carcinomatosis through CSF spread. Although leptomeningeal carcinomatosis occurs in only five percent of cancer patients, it is being diagnosed with increasing frequency as both patient life expectancy and quality of neuroimaging studies have improved over the years. For metastases involving the IAC, neoplastic spread into the meninges and CSF is generally considered the primary mechanism of bilateral tumor deposits. To address this issue, a recently published study by Remo, van Heteren, and colleagues suggests that sound therapy using common background sounds may relieve tinnitus in some CI users who still experience this problem. The study was split into two phases: first, to determine the acceptability of six natural background sounds for therapy, and second, to determine the efficacy of sound therapy in relieving patient's daily experience of bothersome tinnitus. In both phases, the study's sound therapy strategy used water-based background recordings—Shoreline, Beach Surf, Breaking Waves, Calming Waves, Ocean, and Water Creek—that were played directly from the sound processor of a patients' CIs via an algorithm called Cochlear Active Relief from Tinnitus (CART). Of the 32 participants in the first phase, 30 (93.8 %) found at least one background sound to be “acceptable at their preferred volume” and 19 (58.4 %) found all six background sounds acceptable.