

Proceeding





# Effect of music on the quality of life of turkish cochlear implant users: a focus group study

#### **Abstract**

**Objective:** To study the effect of music on the quality of life (QoL) in postlingual and prelingual adult cochlear implant (CI) users.

**Methods:** Thirty adult CI users aged between 18 and 50years old with non-musical backgrounds participated in the study. <sup>1-5</sup> Five focus group discussions about music in everyday life were conducted and data were analyzed using template analysis based on the QoL model of the World Health Organisation Quality of Life BREF questionnaire.

**Results and discussion:** A theoretical framework of the impact of music on the QoL was developed. Music was reported to contribute to many aspects of physical, psychological, and social well-being in adult CI users. These positive effects of music on QoL were similar to what has been reported in the literature for normal-hearing adults. However, difficulties in music perception and enjoyment were found to have a negative impact on CI users' QoL, especially by causing unpleasant feelings and limited participation in music-related or routine daily activities.

**Conclusion:** Adult CI users face difficulties in perceiving and enjoying music that prevent them from participating in music activities when compared with NH adults. Therefore, this situation has a negative impact on CI users' physical, psychological and social well-being. The optimization of listening to and enjoyment of music for CI users can have positive effect on their QoL.<sup>10-14</sup> The findings are of clinical significance as they stress the value of improving the music experience of adult CI users through new music-focused CI technologies or music auditory training.

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## **Conflicts of interest**

Author declares there are no conflicts of interest.

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