



Appendix

The English version of the quality of life questionnaire for cochlear implantation

1. Can you hear background noises like a vacuum cleaner or street noise?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
2. Is your hearing impairment a serious obstacle in your contact with people with normal hearing?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
3. Do you have the ability to whisper when necessary?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
4. Do you feel comfortable in public despite hearing impairment?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
5. Can you have a conversation with someone in a quiet environment (with or without lip reading)?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
6. Does your hearing impairment cause serious problems during work or study?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
7. Do you hear other people's footsteps in your home (for example, in the hall or on the stairs)?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
8. Does your hearing impairment cause a serious problem in your contact with deaf people?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
9. Can you shout when you need to?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
10. Does it bother you that you can hardly hear?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
11. Can you converse with 2 or more people in a quiet environment (with or without lip reading)?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
12. Does your hearing impairment cause you a serious problem when you are in traffic?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
13. Can you hear your phone or house ringing?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
14. Does your hearing impairment because you a serious problem when you are with a group of people for example for fun, sports or vacation?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
15. Can you communicate to strangers without using hand gestures?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
16. Do you get angry if you can't follow a conversation?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
17. When you are in a crowded shop, can you understand what the seller means?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
18. Does your hearing impairment cause a serious problem in your recreation?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
19. Do you hear the front door knocking when you are busy at home? (Feeling is not intended)
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
20. Does your hearing impairment cause serious problems in your contact with the people you live with (family/spouse)?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
21. Can you adapt your voice to different situations (noisy environment or quiet environment)?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
22. Do you avoid talking to strangers?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
23. Can you enjoy music?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
24. Does your hearing impairment because serious problems for your functioning at home?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
25. Can you hear cars approaching on the street?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
26. Are you left alone in the crowd due to hearing impairment?
 - a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know

- a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
27. Do strangers know from your voice that you are deaf or hard of hearing?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
28. Do you ask others to speak louder and more clearly if they are speaking too slowly or indistinctly?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
29. Can you recognize a particular melody in music?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
30. Does your hearing impairment cause you a serious problem when shopping?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
31. Can you hear soft sounds (key drop, microwave beeping)?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
32. Do you go to places where your hearing loss may cause a serious problem?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
33. Can you convey your meaning to acquaintances without using hand gestures?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
34. Do you feel nervous when talking to strangers?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
35. Can you recognize certain rhythms in music?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
36. Does your hearing impairment because you a serious problem while watching TV?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
37. Do you hear (not feel) someone approaching you from behind?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
38. Does your hearing impairment seriously hinder your contact with the people who live in your neighborhood?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
39. How much does it bother you that people know from your voice or speech that you have a hearing problem?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
40. Can you understand the meaning of strangers without reading lips?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
41. Does your hearing disorder cause you serious problems at parties (for example, birthdays)? not?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
42. Can you hear people talking on the radio? (Not necessarily understand)
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
43. Does your hearing impairment cause you serious problems when you are with friends?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
44. Can you communicate easily with other people despite your hearing problem
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
45. Can you tell the difference between a man's voice, a woman's voice and a child's voice?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
46. Does your hearing impairment because a serious problem when dealing with official matters (insurance, offices, municipal office)?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
47. Do you hear when someone calls you?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
48. Does your hearing impairment cause a serious problem in your contact with family members?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
49. Are your circumstances such that you can imagine that you would feel happier if you did not have a hearing impairment?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
50. Do you find listening (with or without lip reading) boring?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
51. Does your hearing impairment cause a serious problem when you go out or travel?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
52. Can you hear sounds from another room (eg children playing, baby crying)?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
53. When you are in a group, do you feel that your hearing impairment prevents you from being taken seriously?
a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
54. Does your hearing impairment weaken your self-

confidence?

- a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know
55. Does your hearing impairment prevent you from shining in the work environment or social relationships?
- a. Never b. Sometimes c. Usually d. Most of the time e. Always f. I don't know

Please note that the answers to the following five questions have changed

56. Can you make your voice angry, friendly or sad?
- a. No b. Hardly c. Relatively Good d. Good e. Excellent f. I don't know

57. Can you control the pitch of your voice? (decrease and increase)

- a. No b. Hardly c. Relatively Good d. Good e. Excellent f. I don't know
58. Can you control the volume of your voice?
- a. No b. Hardly c. Relatively Good d. Good e. Excellent f. I don't know

59. Can you make your voice "natural"? (that is, not like the voice of a deaf person)

- a. No b. Hardly c. Relatively Good d. Good e. Excellent f. I don't know

60. Can you have a simple phone conversation?

- a. No b. Hardly c. Relatively Good d. Good e. Excellent f. I don't know