



## Why is the T•A•C•I•T study needed?

In the U.S., approximately 200 children per 100,000 are born with hearing loss. A substantial proportion of these children receive cochlear implants. Children with cochlear implants benefit from regular access to therapy as they learn to listen and talk.

Not every child has equal access to therapy. This is often the case in rural areas. To make access to therapy more equitable, therapy can be offered via telepractice (also referred to as telemedicine). Telepractice utilizes interactive video to deliver therapy from a distance.

Telepractice is not yet a common delivery option, and insurance companies do not always provide reimbursement. The T•A•C•I•T study is investigating the effectiveness of telepractice. Your participation will assist the study team as we learn more about the outcomes of therapy delivered via telemedicine.

## What are the goals of the T•A•C•I•T study?

The goal of the T•A•C•I•T study is to compare and contrast the ways in which children with cochlear implant(s) benefit from therapy when the treatment is provided via telemedicine technology and in person.

While most speech therapies have typically been delivered in person, many people are starting to access therapy over the internet. We are conducting this research to determine if therapy outcomes are the same when the therapy is delivered by means of telemedicine as when the therapy is in person.

The activities of the T•A•C•I•T study will coordinate with your child's therapist, and your family's current clinical and/or educational team. This study investigates the development of speech, listening, and language when therapy is delivered through interactive video over the internet. The study will also investigate the development of the auditory part of the brain as a result of cochlear implants and therapy.

## What is involved in study participation?

Each child will spend several months, sequentially, in both the in-person and telemedicine condition. Your child's therapist will remain the same throughout the research project.

Your child will be tested three times during the study.



## Is the T•A•C•I•T study right for my family?

**Q** How do I know if my family qualifies?

**A** The T•A•C•I•T team is looking for children ages 6 months-6 years who received cochlear implant(s) before 3 1/2 years of age.

**Q** Where does the study take place?

**A** Therapy is provided at either a speech therapist's office, or in your home using the internet.

**Q** How will my child be tested?

**A** A qualified study team member will administer speech, listening, and language tests. Your child will also receive a test to identify how well the auditory area of the brain is developing. Each testing appointment may take two visits, one of which can take place in your home.

**Q** Will we be reimbursed for our time?

**A** Compensation will be provided for testing appointments.

## How do I get involved?

Mention the T·A·C·I·T study to your child's audiologist, current therapy provider, and/or teacher

### Contact the T·A·C·I·T Research Team

Arlene Stredler Brown, PhD, CCC-SLP  
Phone: 303.818.1258  
Email: arlene.brown@colorado.edu  
Jamie Cavanaugh, MA  
Phone: 303.556.5804  
Email: tacit@ucdenver.edu

#### Principal Investigators:

##### **Jim Grigsby, PhD**

Professor of Psychology and Medicine  
University of Colorado Denver

##### **Anu Sharma, PhD**

Professor of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences  
University of Colorado Boulder

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## Therapy After Cochlear Implants Using Telemedicine

T·A·C·I·T



*Research from the University of Colorado Denver evaluating telemedicine as a means of providing therapy to children with cochlear implants.*

#### Principal Investigators:

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