

## **Abstract EFAS/DGA 2007**

### **Can Ménière's disease be diagnosed objectively?**

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Since almost 70 years ago, bulging of the Reissner's membrane was seen in Ménière's patients and it is generally accepted that endolymphatic hydrops is the cause of the complaints of patients suffering from Ménière's disease.

Up to now, it has not been possible to diagnose endolymphatic hydrops in living humans, although the results of magnetic resonance imaging studies of the temporal bones of human cadavers, as well as of the living humans and guinea pigs, are promising.

Three test techniques that may identify pathology in patients with endolymphatic hydrops will be discussed:

- Vestibular evoked myogenic potentials (VEMP)
- Cochlear hydrops analysis masking procedure (CHAMP) and
- Low Frequency Biasing.

All three techniques have been evaluated in a large group of Ménière's patients in our clinic. The results were compared with those from patients with sensorineural hearing loss of different pathologies, not diagnosed with Ménière's disease.

