

## **Abstract EFAS/DGA 2007**

### **The phonetic contents of texts as function of the intended age group.**

Koopman, J., Verschuure, J.

Erasmus MC, Rotterdam

A lot of speech in noise tests have been developed. Most tests compare the phonetic structure of their speech material to the phonetic structure of written text. This is based on the assumption that the assessment of speech intelligibility becomes more reliable when being assessed on material following the phonetic distribution of daily speech. Different passages from books (each contained 2000 words), written for 6 different age groups (2-4; 4-6; 6-8; 8-12; 12-16; adults) were analysed on their phonetical contents. The phonetical distributions were compared using a Chi-squared test. In addition, the list for adults was compared to a previous study conducted in Dutch. Results indicated that, when developing speech in noise tests, one should take into account that language changes due to influences of other languages. In addition, when developing speech in noise tests for a specific age-group, one should take into account that children are addressed using different language than adults, which results in a different phonetic distribution.

