



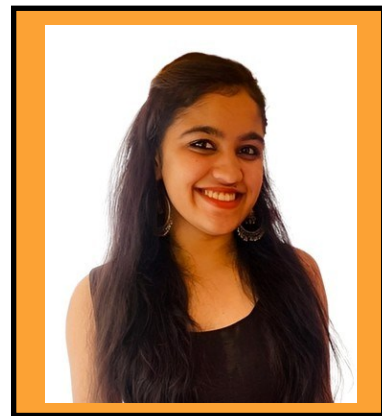
F • L • A • S • H
FRIDAY SEMINARS IN SPEECH, LANGUAGE, AND HEARING

Bruton Conferences are Sponsored by the David Bruton, Jr. Endowed Lecture Series in Communication Disorders

Devendra Joshi Swarali

Title: Relationship Between Device Usage and Listening-Related Fatigue in Adults and Children with Cochlear Implants

Description: Cochlear implants (CIs) enable people with moderate-to-profound sensorineural hearing loss to perceive sounds, but perceptual outcomes with a CI remain highly variable from person-to-person. Individuals who wear their CI consistently tend to exhibit better auditory outcomes than those who do not wear their CI as often. However, even the best-performing CI users typically exert more effort to understand speech than their peers with normal hearing, which can lead to listening-related fatigue. In this study, we aimed to understand whether the amount of time an individual wears a CI each day influences their listening effort, listening-related fatigue, and subjective hearing abilities. We found that adults who do not wear their CIs consistently experience elevated levels of fatigue. We believe that this work provides valuable insights into how CI use influences quality of life beyond speech perception scores. The findings of the study will help guide clinicians in counseling patients to increase device usage to potentially reduce listening effort and associated listening fatigue, thereby improving the quality of life of those individuals.



Biography:

Swarali is a doctoral student in Dr. Kelly Jahn's Neuroaudiology Lab at UT Dallas. She earned her Master's degree in Audiology from India. With clinical experience as an audiologist, she has worked in assessing and providing intervention for individuals with cochlear implants. Her research interests focus on factors that influence cochlear implant outcomes and the overall quality of life for CI users. She is particularly investigating how cochlear implant use impacts self-perceived listening-related fatigue, listening effort, and hearing abilities.

Date/Time: Friday, October 24th - @ 12 noon to 1 pm

Location: MS Teams and Room A229