

The Ins and Outs of Datalogging and How It Can Be Used as a Counseling Tool



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Datalogging: What is it?



- Datalogging is a tool used to help give information about equipment usage time to an Audiologist.
- Datalogging for some companies can be a tool used to see what environments equipment is used in.
- Reality of datalogging: Each pediatric amp company collects and analyzes info from datalogging chip differently.
 - Cautious interpretation.



Pediatric BTE Hearing Aids



- Datalogging within hearing aid software may be 1 singular number OR a little more...

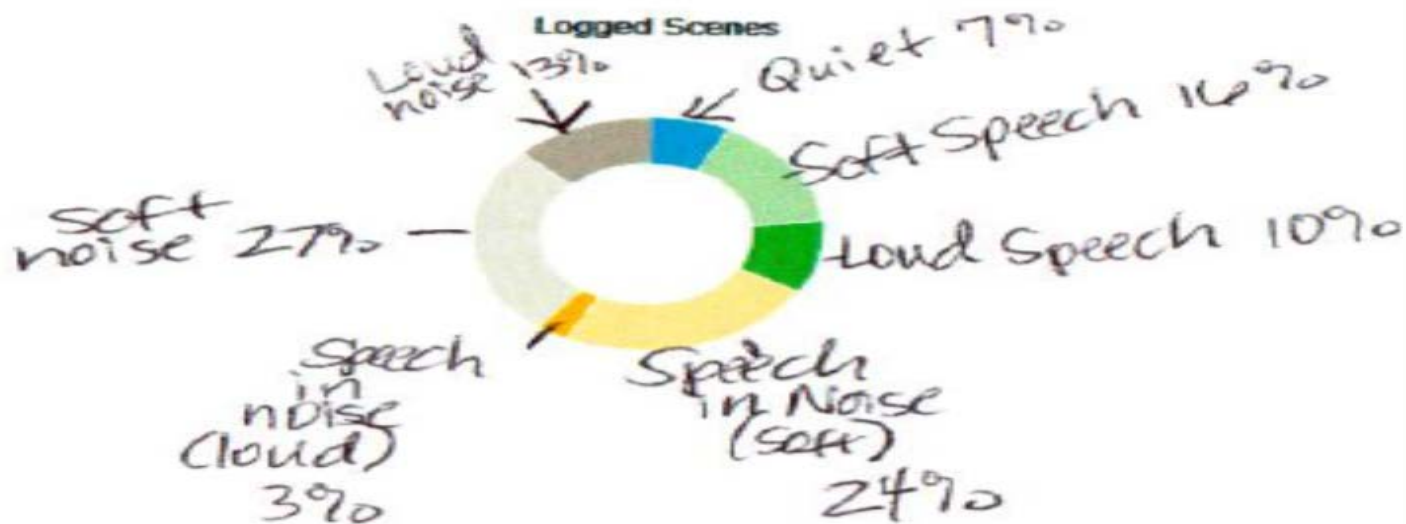




Pediatric Bone Conduction Hearing Aids



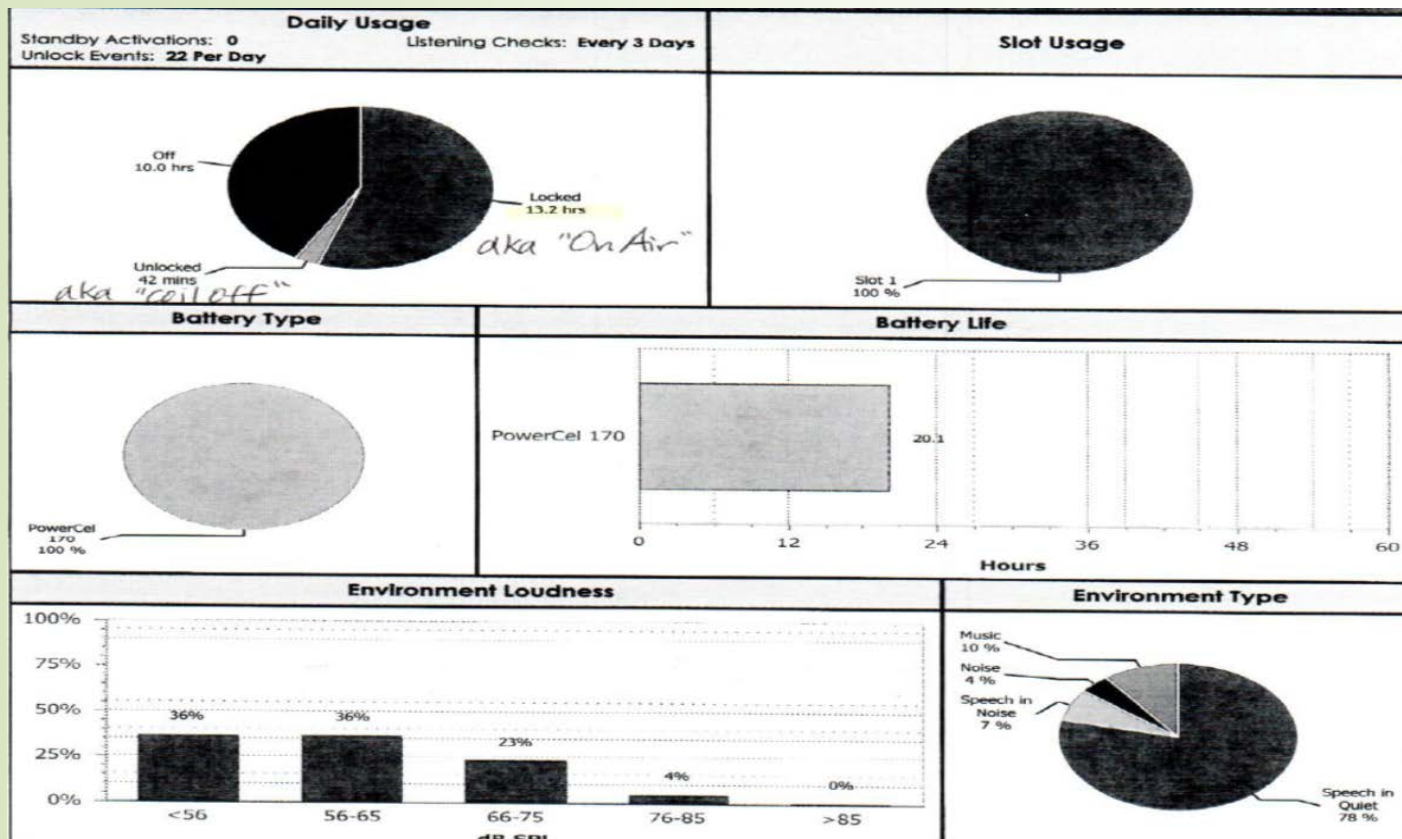
- Datalogging: # + hourly columns of usage to compare or # + scene analysis (SA)



Pediatric Cochlear Implants



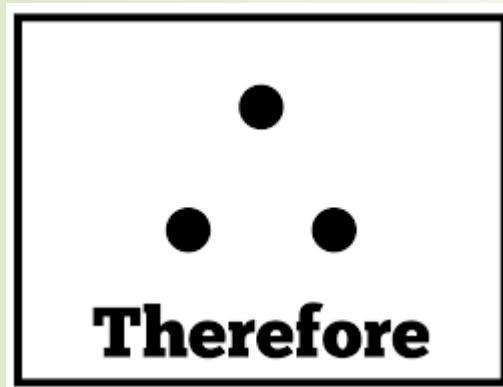
- Datalogging could be any combo of #, SA, & more



Datalogging: It's not one size fits all!



- There are no 2 companies of datalogging analysis that look exactly alike!



- Comparisons of datalogging from kid to kid wearing different manufacturer's equipment aren't fair comparisons.



Datalogging Quirks



- Streaming, FM receiver, or accessory attachment can turn off datalogging chip
- If there is no scene or hours analysis with the datalogging #, how accurate is the info...really?
 - Is the equipment on, but hidden in a toy chest or trapped in Mom's purse?



Datalogging Quirks (cont.)



- If child changes from main HA or CI processor to back up, datalogging is no longer accurate. Can't just add up the hours.



What are we supposed to do?

- Become really good friends with an Audiologist!!!
- Audiologists should interpret datalogging with caution.
 - If datalogging says kid wears his hearing aid 10 hours a day (with no other info or analysis), but Mom reports he constantly takes the equipment off and hides it...
 - If datalogging says the equipment is on 8 hours a day, but manufacturer datalogging analysis says 90% of the time the environment is noise...



Final Example: a teachable moment

Datalogging is helpful!



Datalogging Audio Summary

- It's a good tool, but should be used and interpreted by an Audiologist.
- Consult your child's Pediatric Audiologist for datalogging info and any questions.
- Encourage full time, all waking hours usage.
- Talk to child's family, caregivers, all team members and include their report of equipment usage with datalogging information for accuracy.



Importance of All Waking Hours

- National average for wear time
 - Between birth to age 5
- What does all waking hours look like at each age and stage?
 - Wear time handout
- Must establish an open and honest relationship with the family you are working with

Using Datalogging as a Counseling Tool

- Recognize that it is not an easy task
- Judgment free zone
- Allow family to set goals for wear time
 - Encourage small, realistic goals to reach overall goal of all waking hours
 - “How can we help you?”
- Identify barriers together

Overcoming the Barriers of Full Time Technology Usage

- Identify the primary caregiver and get them on board
- Begin to log daily wear time to identify parts of the day that are more difficult
- Establish new routines to encourage technology use
- Continue raising the bar
- Retention options
- Remember the sense of urgency and the investment parents are making in their child's future

Datalogging Testimonial



Take Away Points

- There is no listening and spoken language outcome without full-time usage.
- Form an open and honest relationship with all your team members
- Datalogging should be used as a tool for counseling, not a tool for judgment
- Every child/family is different and has different needs

Helpful Websites and Resources

- Retention options
 - <https://successforkidswithhearingloss.com/for-professionals/hearing-aids-on-2/>
 - www.etsy.com (search “hearing aid/cochlear implant/BAHA accessories”)
 - www.gearforears.com
 - <https://www.everydayhearing.com/hearing-aids/articles/best-hearing-aid-clips-prevent-losing-hearing-aid/>
 - <https://www.gearforears.com/sites/www.gearforears.com/files/downloads/35537.pdf>

References

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