

Purpose

The purpose of the study is to help scientists better understand why individuals report trouble understanding sounds, like speech, in noisy environments following concussion

Who is eligible to participate?

We are looking for individuals both **with** and **without** a history of concussion who meet the following requirements:

- 14-40 years old
- Normal Hearing
- Male or Female
- Right or left-handed
- Native speaker of English
- No dreadlocks
- No history of drug/alcohol dependency
- No history of ADD/ADHD, learning disabilities, etc.
- No history of depression or anxiety

What will you do during the study?

The study consists of a brief medical case history, a hearing test, a test that examine attention, memory, and reaction time, and a test that non-invasively measures the electrical output of the brain under a variety of conditions using tiny electrodes that are placed on the scalp

How long will the study take?

Participation will take place across a single session, lasting up to approximately 3 hours. The session will be scheduled at your convenience and can take place at night or on weekends if necessary.

Participation is voluntary and you may withdraw at any time without penalty.

What will you receive for participating?

Compensation of \$60 will be provided following completion of all elements of the study.

Why is the study important?

Results of this study may help doctors better understand the effects of concussions so that new prevention, assessment and treatment options can be explored.

Will other individuals (coaches, athletic trainers, primary care providers) find out about participation or have access to the information collected during the study?

No, all participants are assigned a unique identifier and no personal information is used for purposes of identification for any reason. Only the unique identifier appears on paperwork associated with the study and only the researchers have access to the information. In addition, participation status is kept confidential so coaches, athletic trainers, and primary care providers won't know about participation unless notified by you.

Can participation in the study take the place of a concussion management protocol?

No, the study is not meant to act as a replacement for pre-determined concussion management protocols. As the information collected is meant for research purposes only, at this point, it cannot be used during the diagnosis or treatment of a concussion.

Who do I contact if I have questions or if I would like to participate?

If you have any questions or if you or your child/ward would like to participate, please contact me by phone or email. My phone number is 815-753-7366 and my email address is mwilson@niu.edu. Please mention "Concussion Study" when calling or emailing. Please also note that I cannot guarantee the confidentiality of information sent by email.

If you want further information regarding your rights or your child/ward's rights as a research participant, you may contact the Office of Research Compliance at Northern Illinois University at 815-753-8588.