



THE FIRST VOICE NATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECT:

A preliminary glimpse

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First Voice centres

First Voice

- Est. 2010 as the National Voice for member organisations whose primary focus is the provision of listening and spoken language to children with HL.
- 5 Centres in Australia
- 1 NZ



First Voice

- Aims :
 - To improve the speech, language, social, cognitive & academic development of children with HL and support their families
 - To raise awareness of early childhood HL and provision of evidence-based early intervention services for listening and spoken language services for children with HL
- Supporting more than 1,000 children with HL
- Over 720 in early intervention

Sound Connections Project

- 3 year National research project (2010 -2013)
- Funded Telstra Foundation Social Innovation Grant, supervised by First Voice's Research Advisory Committee.

AIMS:

1. To determine the speech and language skills of children in similar intervention programs
2. To determine the social inclusions skills of children with a hearing loss
3. Explore links between speech and language skills and levels of social inclusion

Rationale

- Clinical Quality Improvement and Assurance
- Assist in establish benchmarks for listening and spoken language programs
- Holistic focus
- Outcome measures beyond traditional assessments and life outside the ‘therapy room’
- Inclusion of different skill teaching in intervention?

Beyond speech and language



firstvoice
THE FUTURE IS HEAR

The Hearing House
deaf kids talking
a firstvoice centre

cora barclay centre
a firstvoice centre
teaching deaf kids to speak

Hear and Say
a firstvoice centre

The Shepherd Centre
giving deaf children a voice
a firstvoice centre

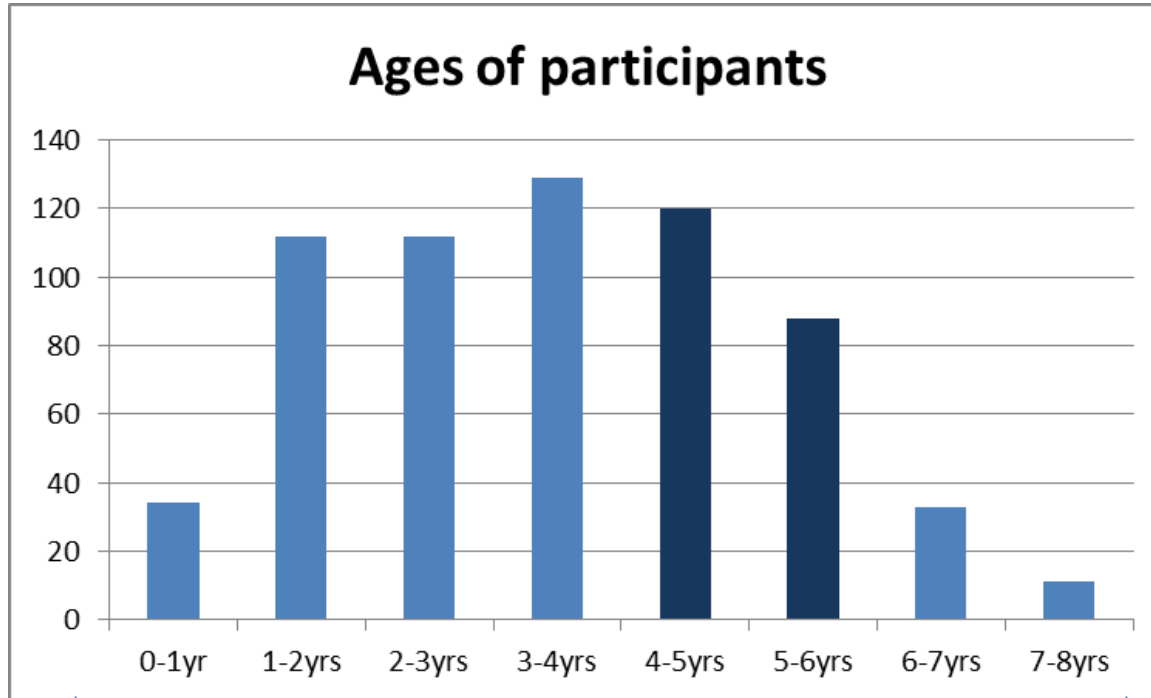
Taralye
the oral language centre for deaf children
a firstvoice centre

Telethon Speech & Hearing
Releasing children's potential
a firstvoice centre

Project Phases

- Phase 1 – Literature review and Social inclusion framework development (completed)
- Phase 2 – Development clinical database (data collection underway)
- Phase 3 – Social inclusion parent questionnaire (May 2013)
- Phase 4 – Integration of learnings into practice

Participants (n=639)



Speech & Language skills



Social Inclusion skills (1st cohort)

Assessment Protocol

	CA: 0-2 ¹¹	CA: 3-3 ⁵	CA: 3 ⁶ – 4 ⁰	CA: 4 ⁰ - 4 ¹¹	CA: 5 ⁰ onwards
Language	PLS-4	PLS-4	CELF-P2/PLS-4	CELF-P2/PLS-4	CELF-4/PLS-4
Receptive Vocab	-	PPVT-4	PPVT-4	PPVT-4	PPVT-4
Speech	-	GFTA-2	GFTA-2	GFTA-2	GFTA-2
Audition	PEACH CAP-R Scales	PEACH CAP-R Scales	PEACH CAP-R Scales	PEACH CAP-R Scales	PEACH CAP-R Scales

Social inclusion questionnaire:

60 item online questionnaire

Framework of 5 faces of social inclusion (Taylor, Hogan & Dornan, submitted)

'Growing Up in Australia: The Longitudinal Study of Australian Children'

FV database: Additional information

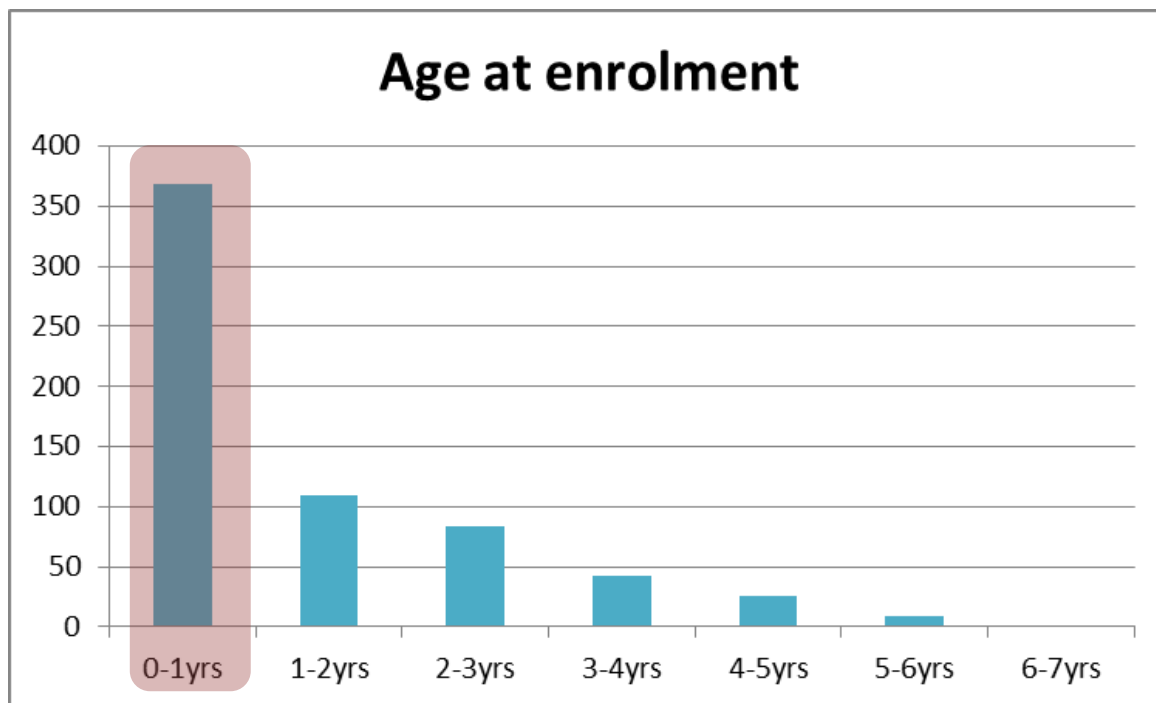
- DOB,
- Gender,
- Postcode,
- Cultural Heritage
- Primary Language,
- Mother/ Primary Care Giver's Level of Education,
- UNHS Result,
- Date of Diagnosis,
- Aetiology,
- Additional Disability that impacts on learning ,
- Stability,
- Symmetry,
- HL: Left,: Right 4PTA
- Device Type,
- Date of Fitting or Switch on,
- Device Management Scale
- Enrol Date
- Location
- Service Frequency,
- Program type and hours*
- Moeller Family Engagement Scale

Challenges

- Measuring social inclusion – development of a framework
- Agreeing on and aligning protocols
- Collection of data when clinically focussed
- Collaboration
- Increasing load on families

A preliminary glimpse

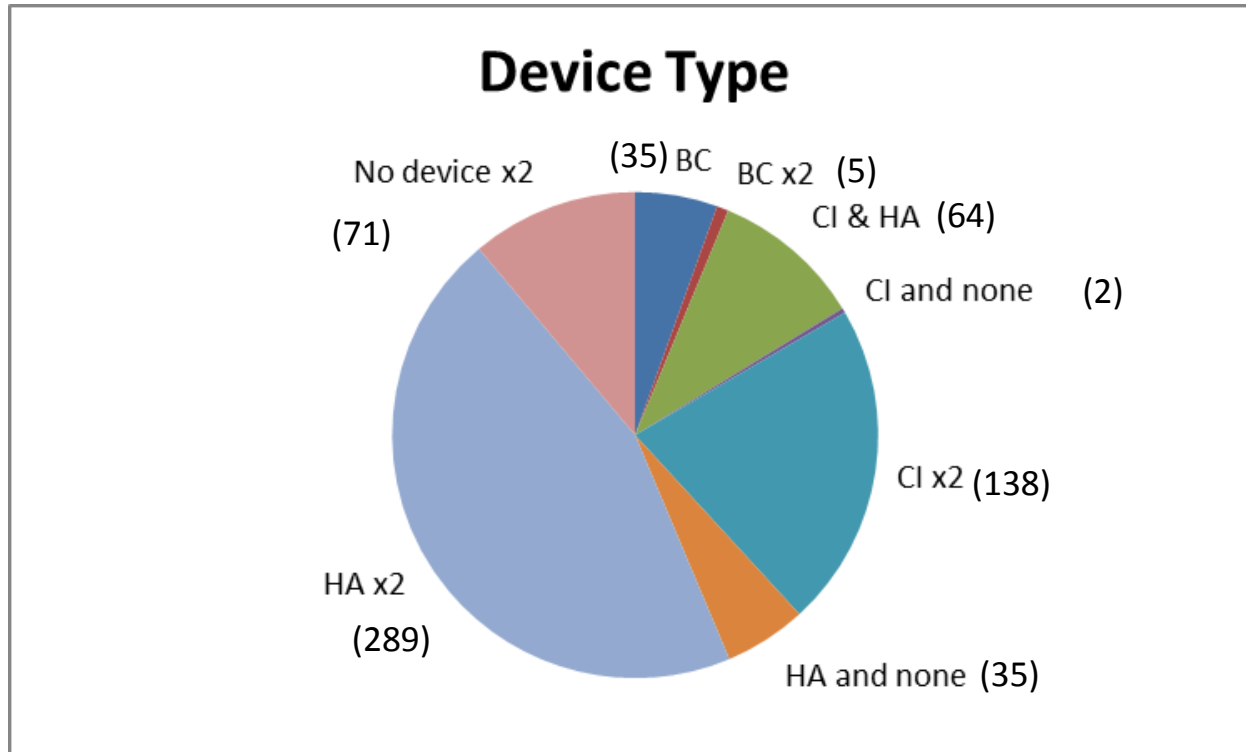
- Snapshot collected Jan-July 2012



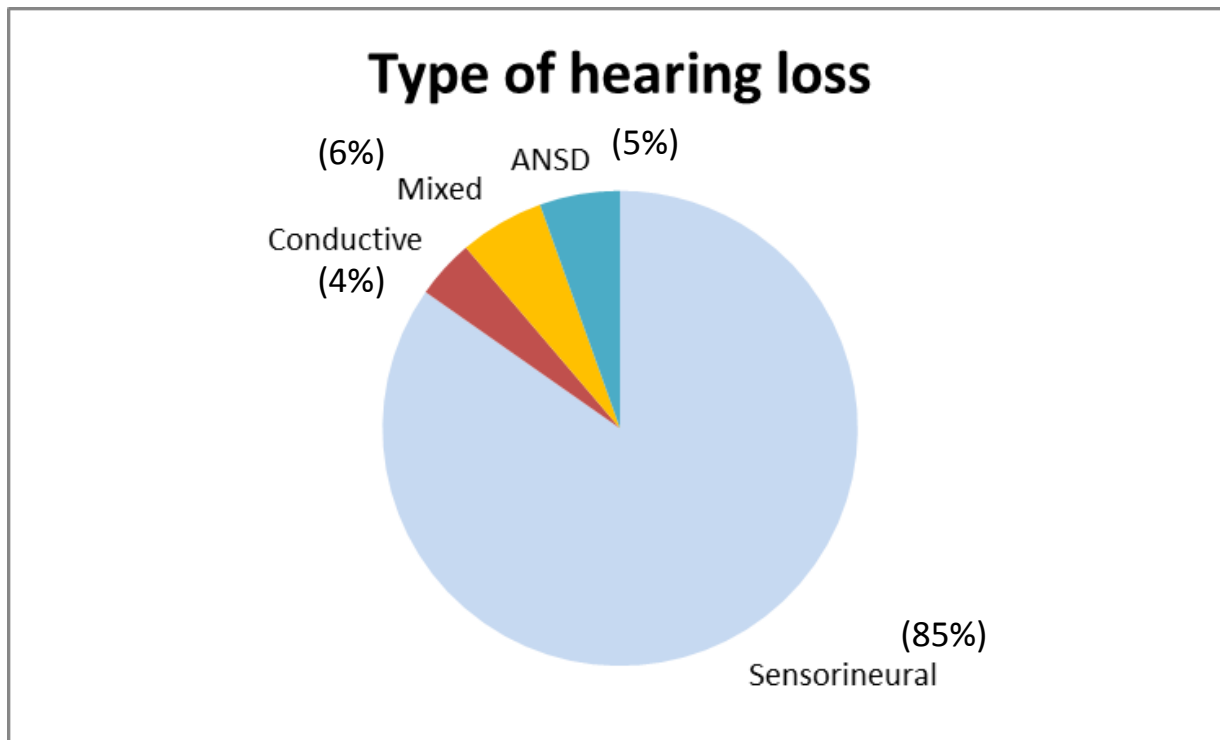
n=639

58%

Device Type

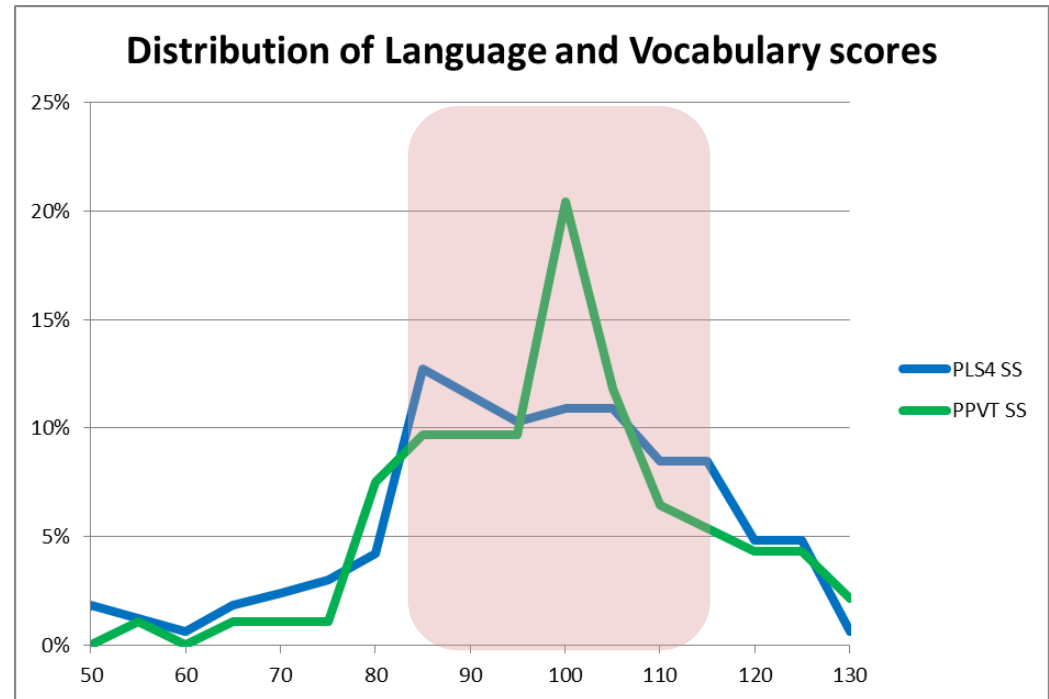


Type of hearing loss



Preliminary speech and language scores

PPVT SS	PLS4 AC SS	PLS4 EC SS	PLS4 SS
Average 96	Average 94	Average 97	Average 95
Minimum 26	Minimum 50	Minimum 50	Minimum 50
90% 78	90% 74	90% 76	90% 73
75% 87	75% 85	75% 85	75% 84
Median 98	Median 95	Median 97	Median 96
25% 108	25% 106	25% 110	25% 107



Next Steps

- Analyse speech and language data + additional information to guide clinical service delivery
- Social inclusion (SI) data all 4, 5, 6yr olds in program
- Analyse SI data in combination with speech and language information
- Investigate ways to look at improving social inclusion skills for all children with hearing loss

Acknowledgements

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All First Voice Centres
The children and families we work with

