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AUDITORY INTEGRATION TRAINING

Auditory integration training (AIT) is a therapy for certain auditory function problems including hypersensitivity to sound, auditory attention problems, and auditory processing problems. These disorders may present themselves alone or associated with other developmental disorders such as learning disabilities, autism, pervasive developmental disorder, attention deficit disorder, multisystem developmental disorder, or regulatory disorders. The auditory symptoms are not the cause of the disorders but may be an associated symptom. AIT will not cure the disorder. The goal of the therapy is to reduce the symptoms if the auditory symptoms are interfering with a child's function.

The initial step is to determine if a child has an auditory function problem. This is done by obtaining a careful history from the family and, if possible, others who are providing therapeutic intervention and with a complete audiologic evaluation, including auditory processing testing, if possible.

TREATMENT

Treatment takes 10 days. Two half hour sessions are scheduled each day during which the person listens through earphones to carefully filtered and modulated music set specifically to match their audiograms. Improvement in response to sound and changes in behavior may be demonstrated during the two week treatment program or during the six months after treatment. We recommend re-evaluations at 3, 6 and 12 months after receiving AIT.

At the current time there is no peer reviewed research which definitively reports the benefit of AIT. My clinical experience with AIT for 15 years, is that it is frequently successful if a child is a good candidate. Candidacy can only be accurately identified by a pediatric audiologist.