

## **Therapeeds Report - Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Sept '09**

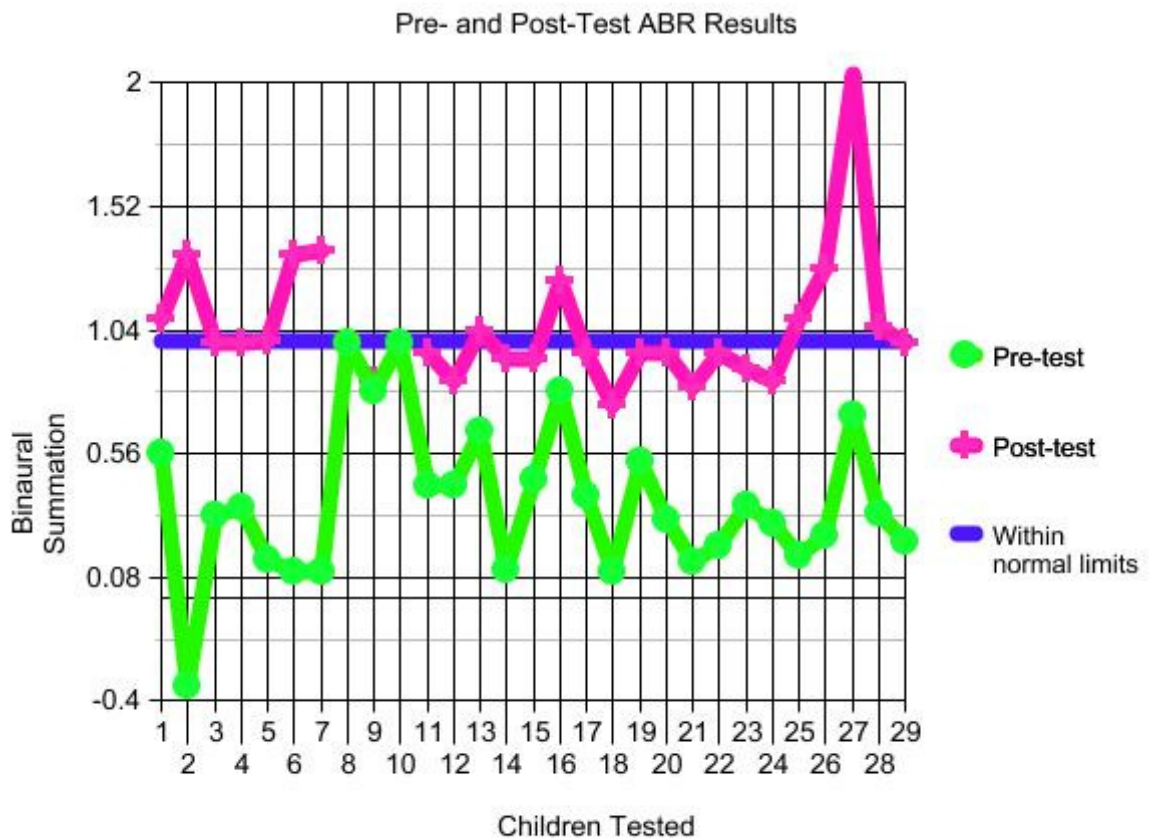
### Summary:

29 children diagnosed with auditory processing disorder (APD) underwent a combined therapy of sound and SI Occupational Therapy at the Therapeeds clinic in Florida. The sound component was the receptive and expressive programs of Integrated Listening System (iLs); the movement program was the H.O.P.E. sensory motor program developed by Julia Harper, founder of Therapeeds. For any teacher, OT, SLP or audiologist accustomed to working with APD, the results are startling:

- 1- Pre-program testing indicated that none of the 29 children (ages 4-14) had intact vestibular processing skills measured by the PrN and functional skills. On post-testing, all 29 were within normal limits.
  
- 2- Pretesting showed that 28 of the 29 demonstrated ocular-motor deficits in the areas of visual pursuits, saccades and convergence/divergence skills. Post intervention, 25 of the 29 demonstrated intact ocular motor skills. (This finding contributed to improvements in reading and writing skills reported by parents and teachers and was verified by increased visual motor performance on the Berry VMI.)
  
- 3- Post-intervention, 22 of the 29 children had auditory processing skills that were completely within normal limits *in every area*.
  
- 4- Other results:
  - a. Seven of 29 children began this therapy on medication for attentional concerns. By the end of the program, the medications for all 7 had all been discontinued.
  - b. Parents and teachers reported improvements in social skills, language, improved grades in reading and math, with most of the kids showing definite improvement in reading comprehension.
  - c. A welcomed side-effect of these interventions was the increased self-confidence demonstrated by the children. It is best summed up by Steven who said at the end of his intensive "...these 3 weeks taught me I can do anything..."

5- Auditory Brainstem Response (ABR) is an electrophysiological test, similar to an EEG, which measures neural integrity through the brainstem. The ABR is an objective test which shows if the ears are coordinated well at the brainstem; when they are not, one might as well be listening with one ear. For students, this is a serious deficit, most often appearing in the areas of sound quality, localization ability and auditory figure ground discrimination.

Pre-intervention ABR tests showed all 29 children had little difference between listening with one ear and listening with both ears (binaural summation). Post-intervention, all 29 tested in the normal range.



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