The National Acoustic Laboratories (NAL) is a government research laboratory. NAL is funded from the government, from sponsors and grants, and from commercialisation of its research. The results of this research will generally be reported in scientific publications and on the NAL website, which can be accessed from http://www.nal.gov.au.

Information and Consent Form

Information for Participants

May 2016

Large-scale assessment of outcomes of hearing rehabilitation

We need your approval to use for our research the information that your clinician provides about you to National Acoustic Laboratories (NAL), or that you provide directly to NAL.

Background information
NAL has been funded by the international hearing aid manufacturers to study how the benefits of hearing aids can be predicted from information about clients and information about the hearing aids. The results are expected to be useful to clinicians and clients in the future as they consider how hearing aids can help them.

What is involved?
During your hearing assessment, you will be asked some questions about your hearing.

If you proceed with getting hearing aid(s), your clinician will post you a questionnaire in three months’ time, and ask you to post it back to NAL.

Privacy of information
Your privacy will be completely protected. Your clinician will not reveal to NAL your name or address. NAL will not reveal to your clinician any of the answers you give in the questionnaire you return to NAL.

Your rights
Although we value your participation, you are free to decide whether you will participate, and to withdraw at any time. Refusal to participate or withdrawal will not affect the services you receive from your hearing services provider.

Contact details of researcher
If you have any concerns about this project at any stage, please contact Professor Harvey Dillon, Project Leader, on (02) 9412 6828 or via email at Harvey.Dillon@nal.gov.au.
Complaint mechanism
The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the NAL Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have any complaints or reservations about any ethical aspect of this research, you may contact the Committee through the Secretary, Tim Gainsford, on (02) 9412 6862 or via email at tim.gainsford@nal.gov.au. Any complaints will be treated in confidence and investigated, and you will be informed of the outcome.

Name and signature of project leader

Harvey Dillon
Director, NAL
Adjunct Professor, Macquarie University

Consent from Participant

Use of large-scale data in hearing rehabilitation

Date: ________________________________

I, ________________________________, have read and understood this Information and Consent Form. I freely choose to participate in this research and understand I can withdraw from participation at any time.

I consent to NAL using for research the information provided to NAL by my clinician and by me. I note that this information will not include my identity.

Signed: ____________________________ (Participant)