

# International Conference and Expo on **Audiology and Hearing Devices**

August 17-18, 2015 Birmingham, UK

## Arabic computer based auditory training program: A new horizon for management of auditory processing disorders

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A comprehensive program for remediation of auditory processing disorders was developed in Arabic language in order to suit Arabic-speaking children. Arabic computer-based auditory training program (CBAT) was developed by a multidisciplinary team of audiology, phoniatrics, acoustic engineering, and software programming. The program proved to be an efficient approach for remediation of auditory processing disorders. It offered several advantages including multi-sensory stimulation in an engaging format, generous feedback and reinforcement that facilitates intensive training with a highly interesting and attractive theme for children. Application of the program on children with auditory processing disorders particularly those with language and learning problems as well as on children with (C)APD combined with other perceptual disorders & neuro-psychiatric disorders showed promising outcome. Evaluation of the outcome showed beneficial improvement subjectively and objectively. Arabic CBAT program is a new horizon for management of auditory processing disorders.

### Biography

Somia Tawfik is a Professor of Audiology at Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt. She graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at Ain Shams University in 1978 and received her Master's (1982) and Doctorate (1986) degrees at the same University. She has many publications in the area of central auditory evaluation & development of Arabic material for central auditory testing in adults & children and shared in development of an Arabic computer-based material for remediation of children with central auditory processing disorders. She has good clinical experience in evaluating and remediating patients with different hearing disorders, especially children with auditory neuropathy. She had been the Director of the audiology unit, Ain Shams University for twelve years (1998-2010) and got two grants and organized many local and international conferences. Presently, she is a member of the International Association of Physicians in Audiology, the Egyptian Audio-Vestibular Medicine Association and the Egyptian Society of Oto-rhino-laryngology. She is reviewer of the *Egyptian Journal of Ear, Nose and Throat and Allied Sciences* and *Journal of the American Academy of Audiology*. Her present research focuses on new horizons in central auditory testing such as speech-evoked potentials in children with central auditory processing disorders and language disorders. She also shares in research on hearing aids, vestibular testing and rehabilitation of hearing-impaired children and central auditory testing in elderly.

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