

**Supplementary Table 1.** Consonant-Vowel Nucleus-Consonant speech perception scores

<i>Time interval</i>	<i>Word scores</i>			<i>Phoneme scores</i>		
	<i>n</i>	<i>Mean (SD)</i>	<i>Range</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>Mean (SD)</i>	<i>Range</i>
<i>1. Preoperatively</i>	186	10.7 (15.6)	0 - 85	186	24.8 (23.3)	0 - 95
<i>2. 6-months postoperatively</i>	171	36.0 (18.8)	0 - 86	171	59.9 (18.3)	0 - 96
<i>3. 12-monthsh postoperatively</i>	133	41.5 (21.4)	0 - 84	133	65.0 (20.4)	0 - 93
<i>4. &gt;24-monthsh postoperatively</i>	89	42.7 (20.2)	0 - 80	89	65.2 (19.6)	4 - 92