Abstract

Thirty preschool children who survived from a neonatal intensive care unit were studied with pure tone audiometry between 125 to 8000 Hertz. Examinations were performed in a cross-sectional study at 36 to 72 postnatal months of age. Hypoacusis was found in three patients. Risk factors most frequently found in hypoacoustic children were hyperbilirubinemia, hypoxia neonatorum and ototoxic exposure. All hypoacoustic children had a history of preterm birth, one suffered hypoxia neonatorum, and two hyperbilirubinemia. The patients’ group had an average of 2.26 risk factors. These data suggest that perinatal auditory damage occurs in the presence of additional hearing damage risk factors leading to hypoacusis.

Keywords

hearing disorders; risk factors; preschool; audiometry, puretone; Mexico.