

Speech Recognition Performance After Long-Term Hearing Aid Use

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- 108 participants

SUBJECTS

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- Hearing decreased an average of 10 dB re: original study

METHODS

- NU-6 in quiet (sound field)

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- CST in quiet and in multitalker babble (sound field)

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- Unaided (n = 108) and aided at use
gain (n = 95)

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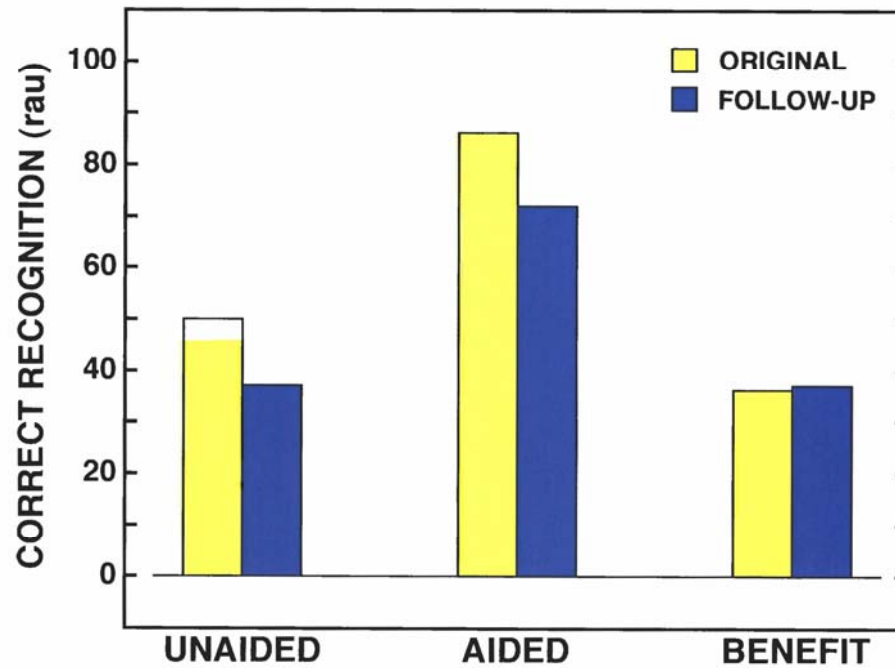
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- Multitalker babble at 45° to left and right of center
- Reference S/B produced 50% performance on CST at 62-dB SPL (mean = 58 dBA) in original study
- Unaided (n = 107) and aided (n = 91)

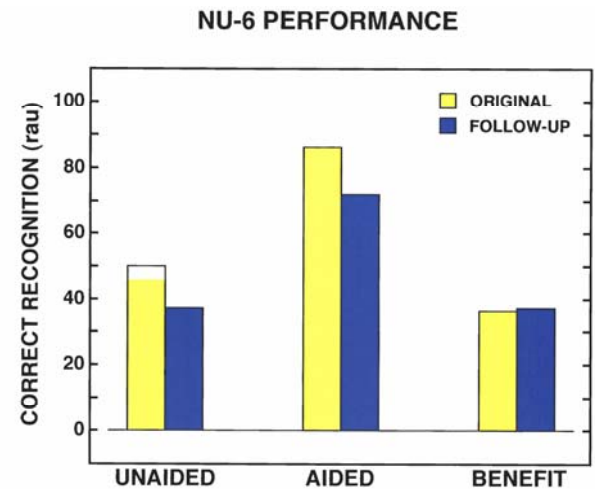
RESULTS: NU-6

NU-6 PERFORMANCE



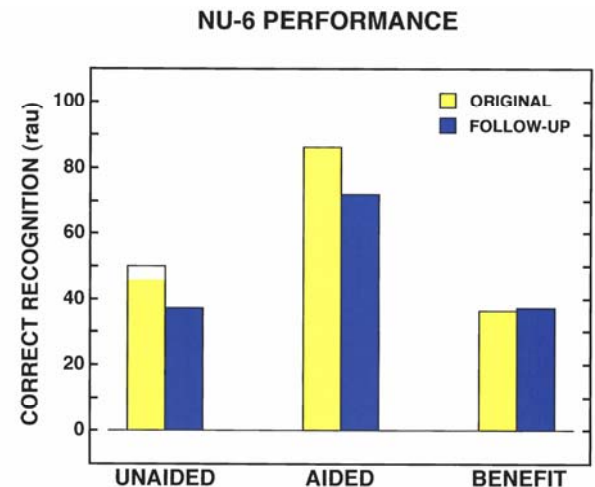
RESULTS: NU-6

- In the follow-up study, both aided and unaided performance decreased by an average of 12% in comparison with the original study.



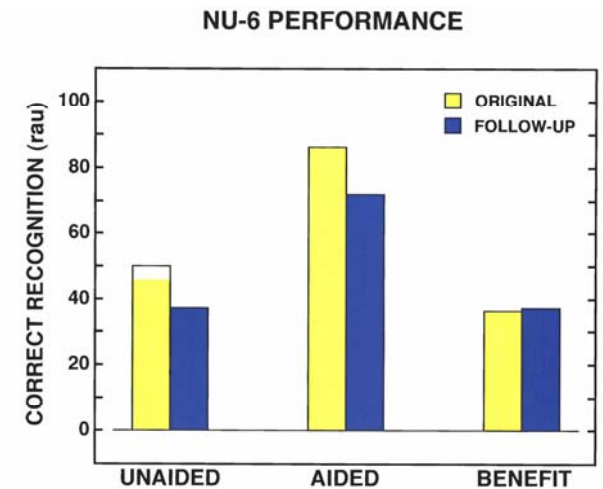
RESULTS: NU-6

- Aided word recognition on the NU-6 improved by an average of 33% for the 95 subjects tested in both aided and unaided conditions. Three of the subjects, however, had poorer performance aided than unaided.



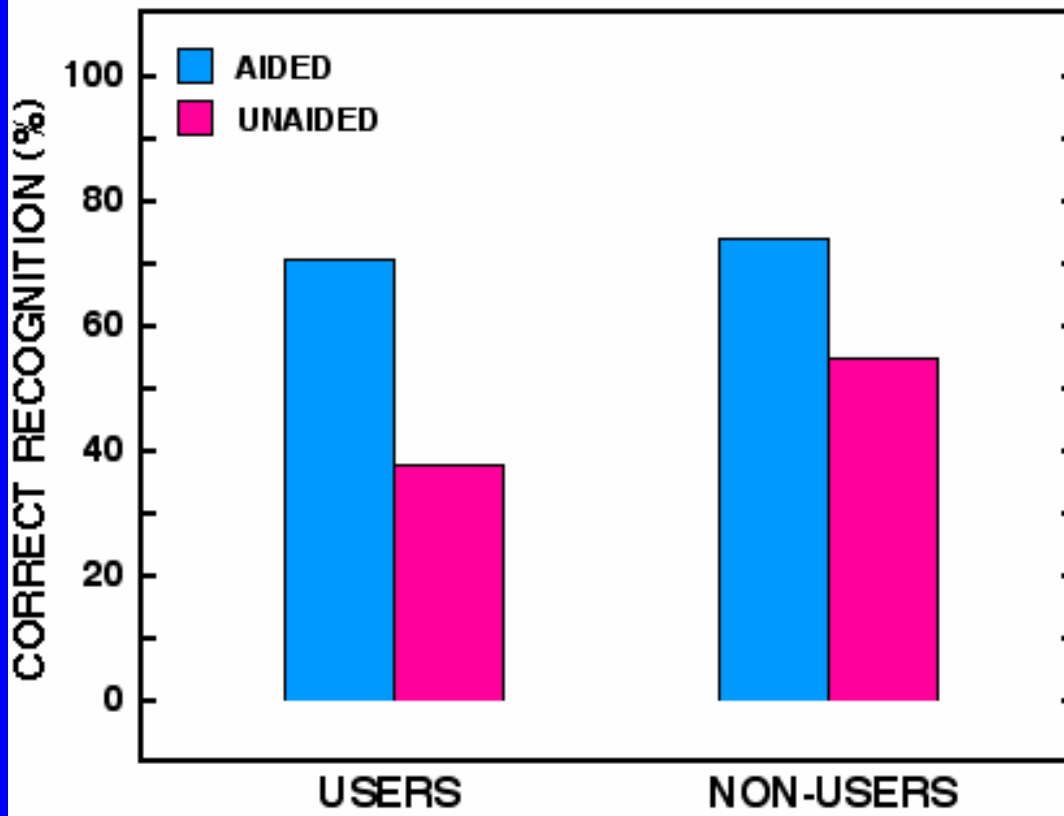
RESULTS: NU-6

- Hearing aid benefit (aided-unaided performance) was the same in both studies.



RESULTS: NU-6

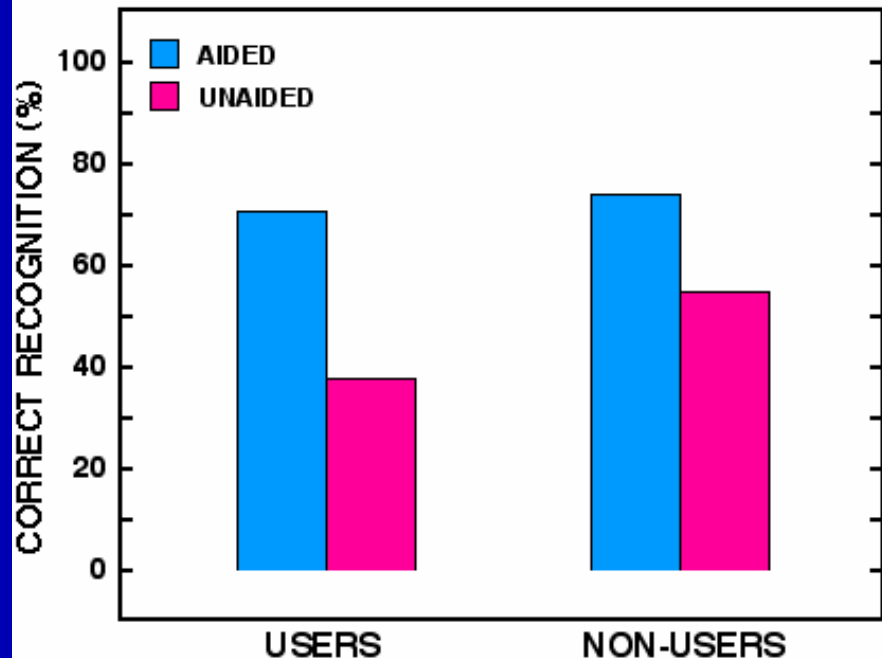
NU-6 PERFORMANCE FOR HEARING-AID USERS AND NON-USERS



RESULTS: NU-6

- On the aided condition, word-recognition performance by the hearing aid users was not significantly different from the performance by the non-hearing aid users.

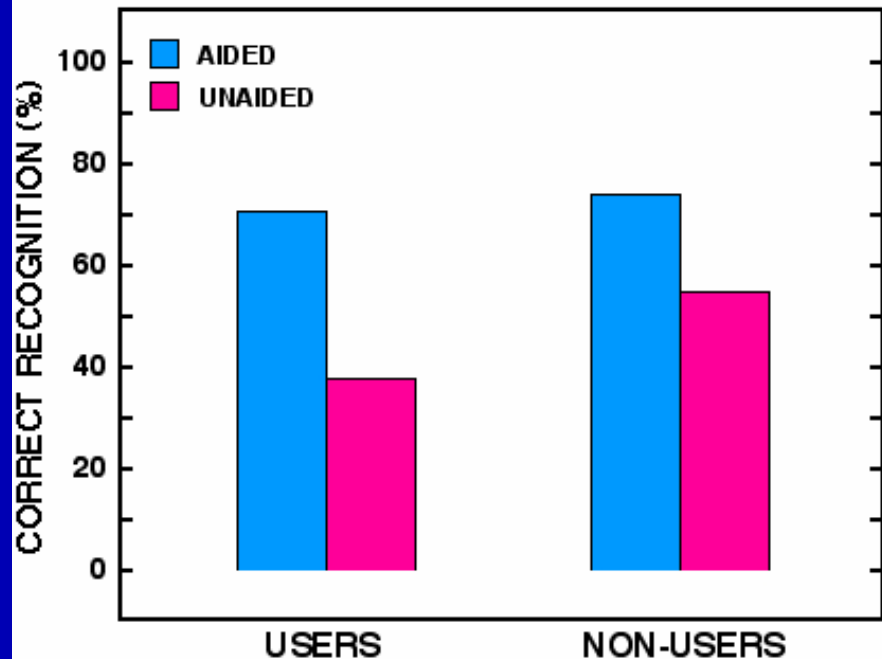
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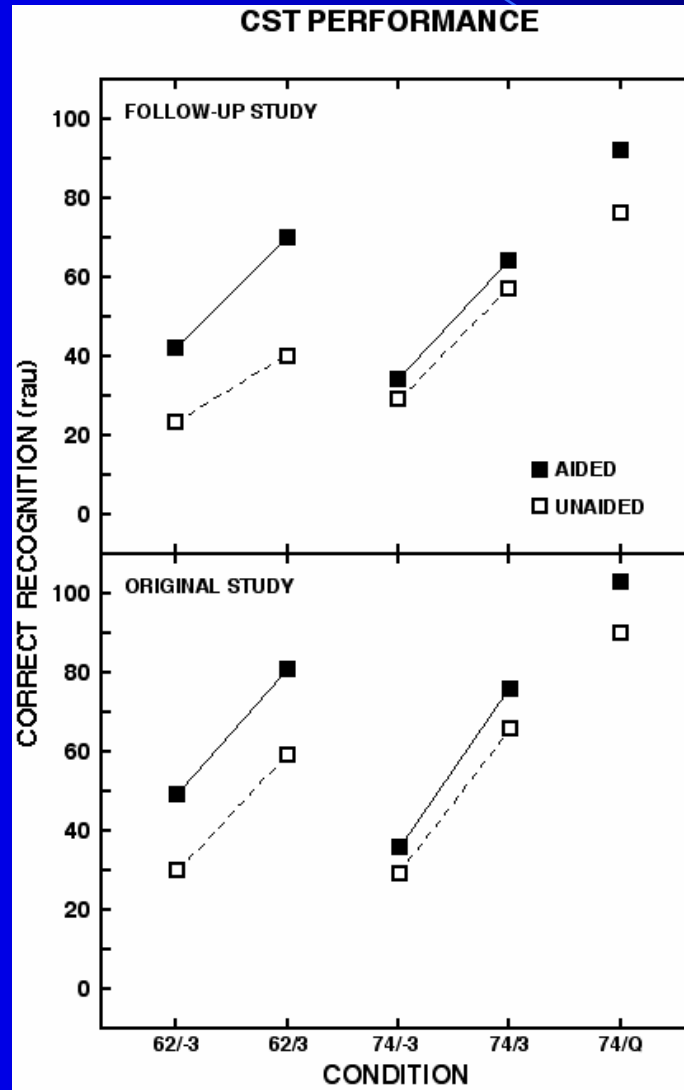
RESULTS: NU-6

- On the unaided condition, word-recognition performance by the hearing aid users was significantly poorer than the performance by the non-hearing aid users.

NU-6 PERFORMANCE FOR HEARING-AID USERS AND NON-USERS

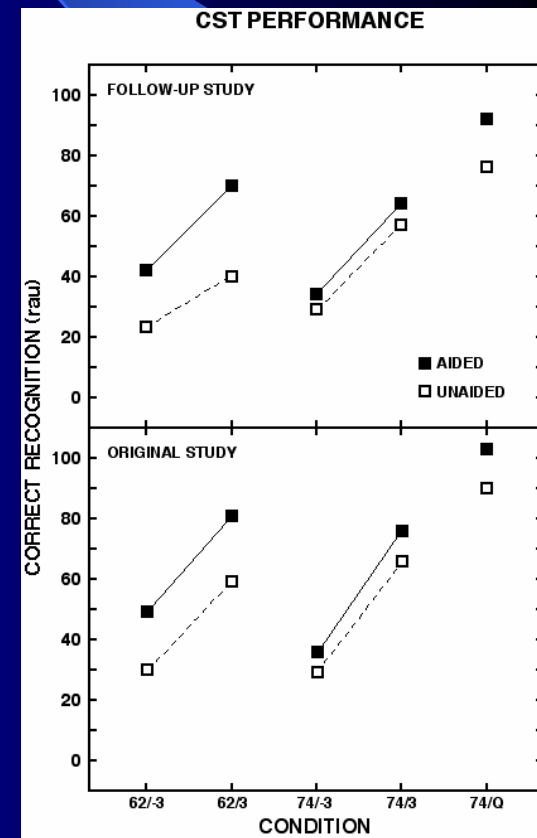


RESULTS: CST



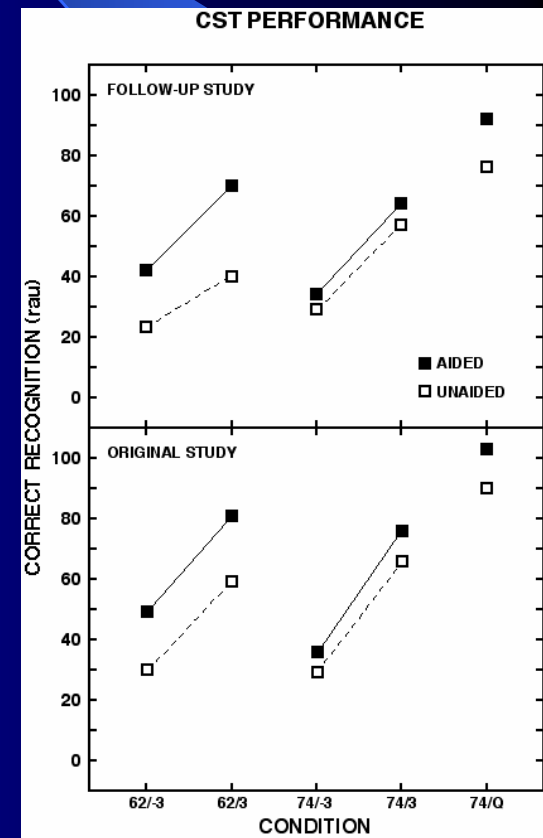
RESULTS: CST

- Speech recognition was better in quiet than in background noise for both aided and unaided conditions.



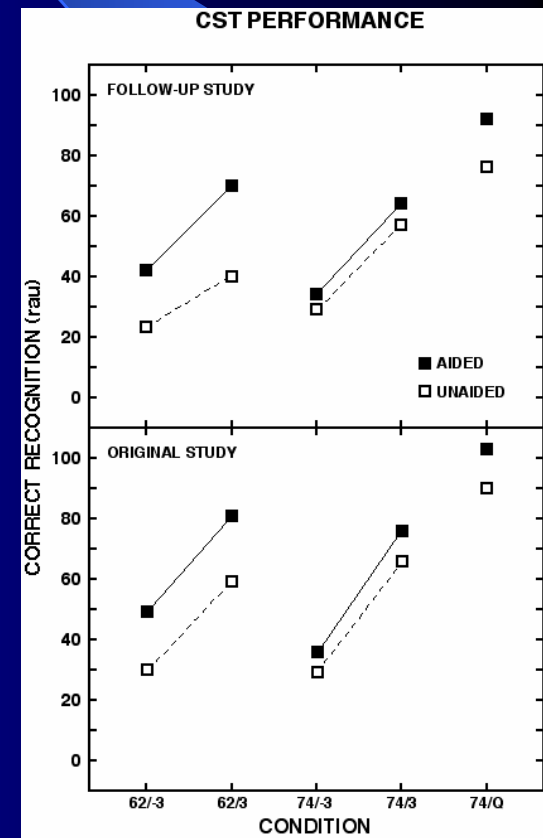
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- Hearing aids provided benefit both in quiet and in background noise

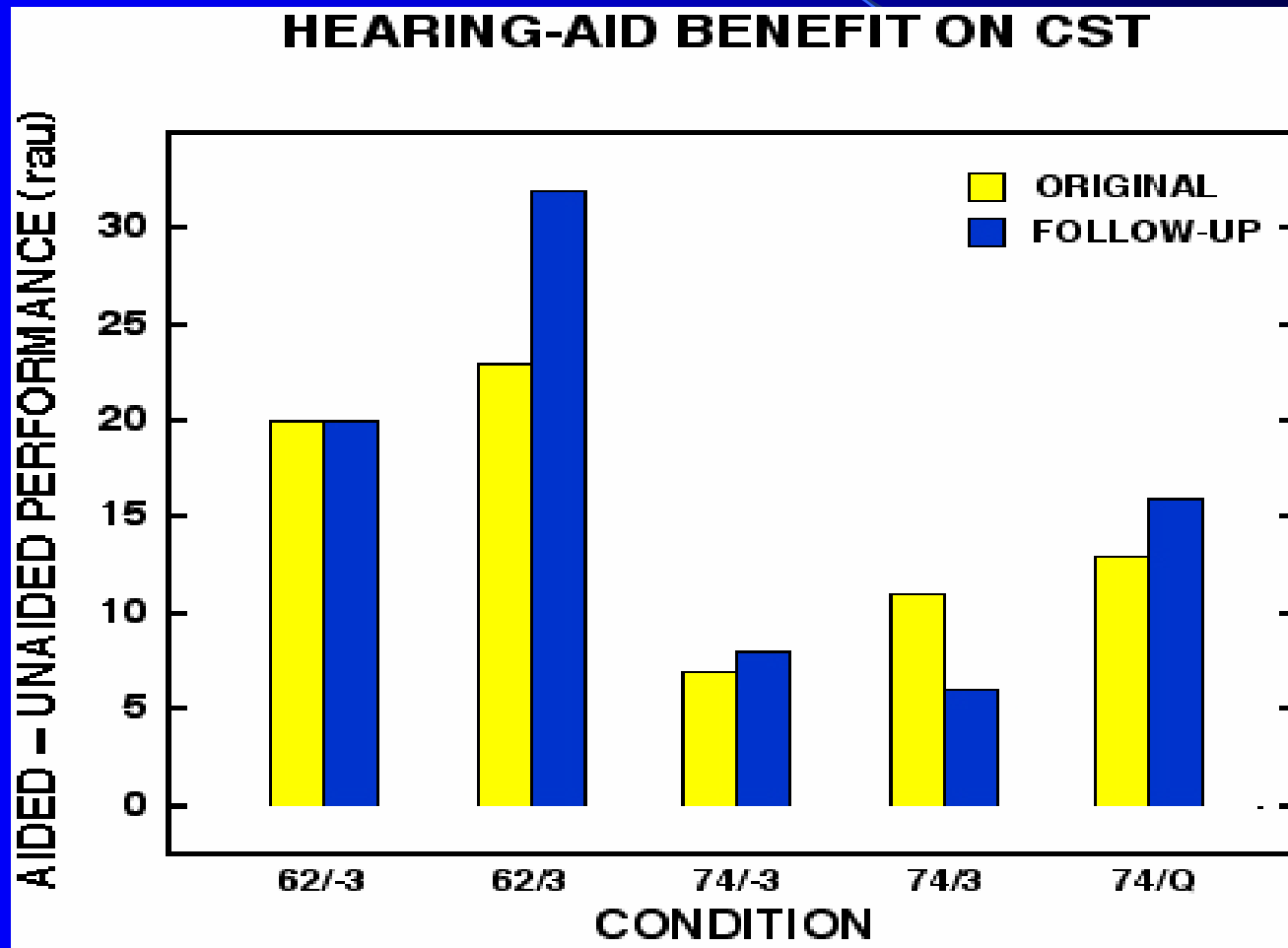


RESULTS: CST

- Performance decreased over the past 5 years, particularly for the more favorable 3-dB S/B

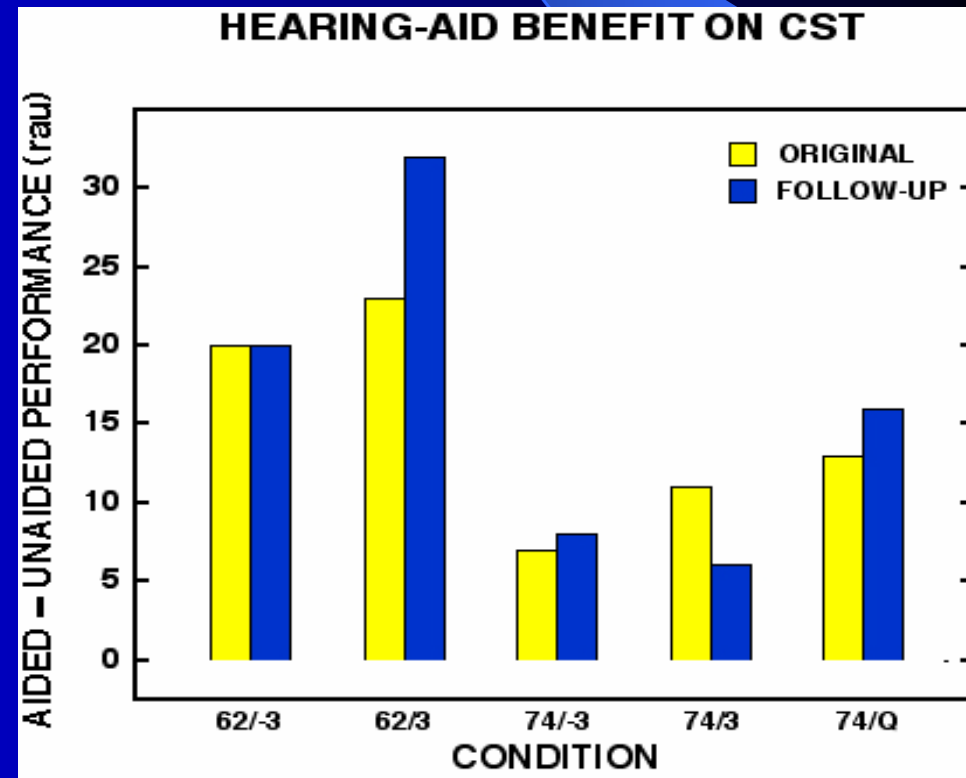


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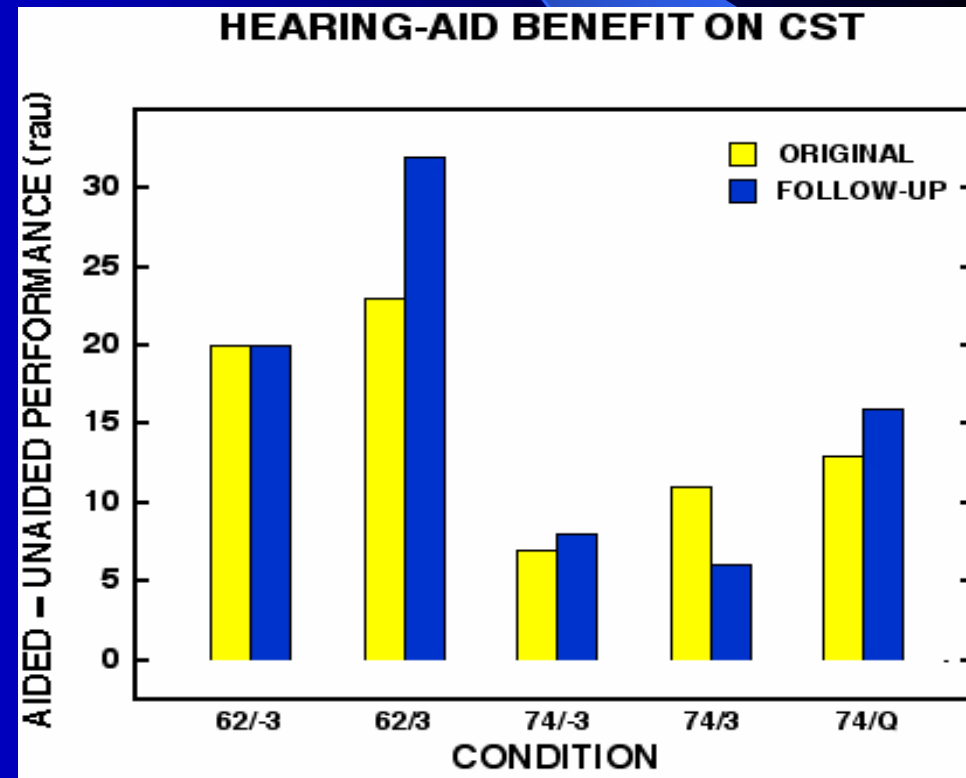
RESULTS: CST

- Hearing aid benefit is greater at the lower presentation level than at the higher presentation level.



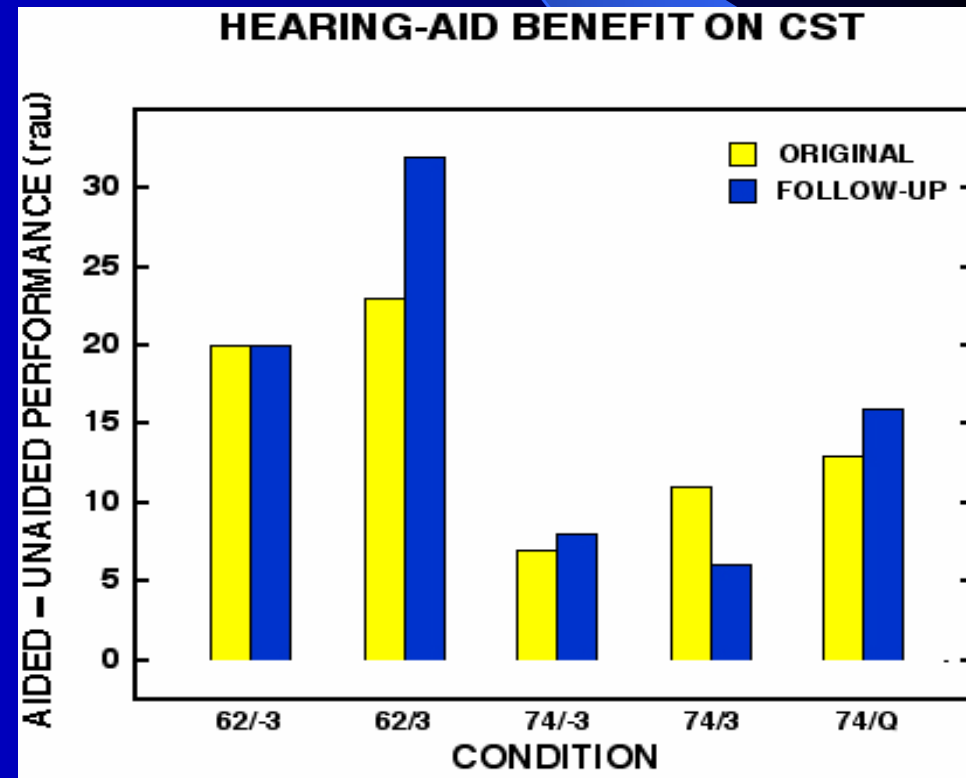
RESULTS: CST

- Aided and unaided performances were not significantly different at the higher presentation level.



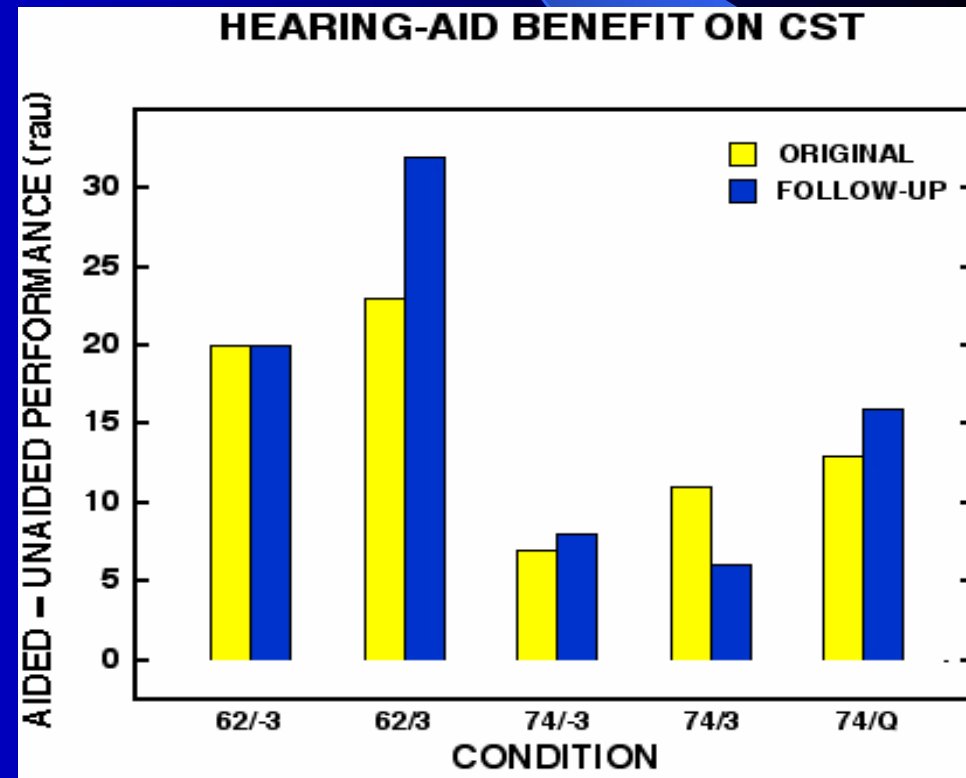
RESULTS: CST

- For the 74/3 condition, 42% of the subjects performed poorer in the aided than in the unaided condition.



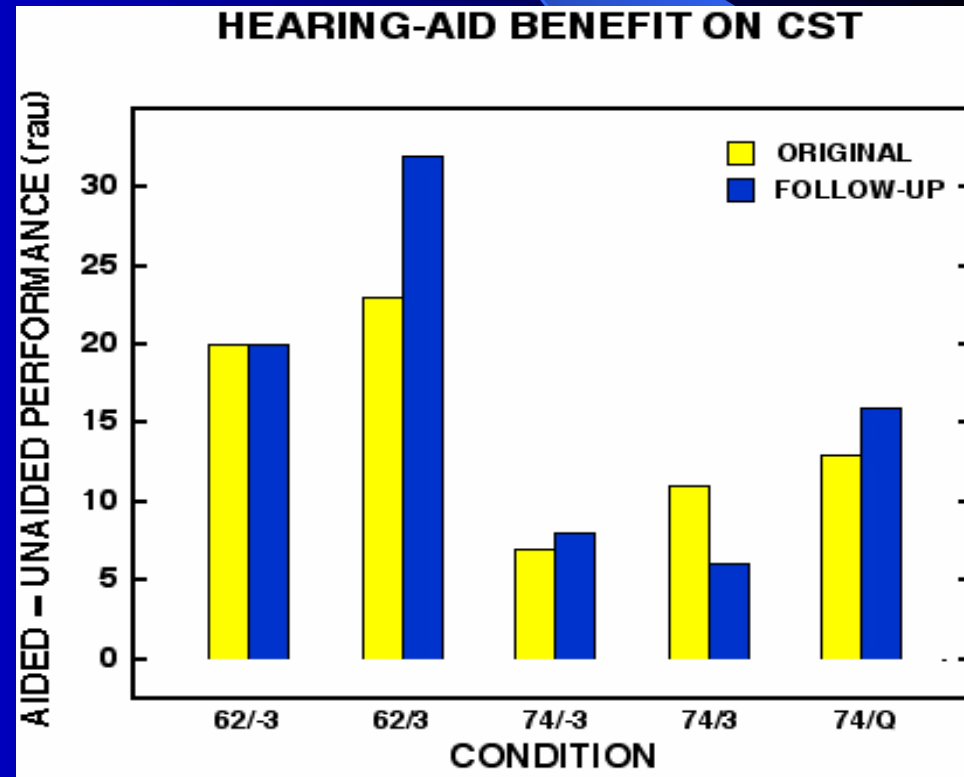
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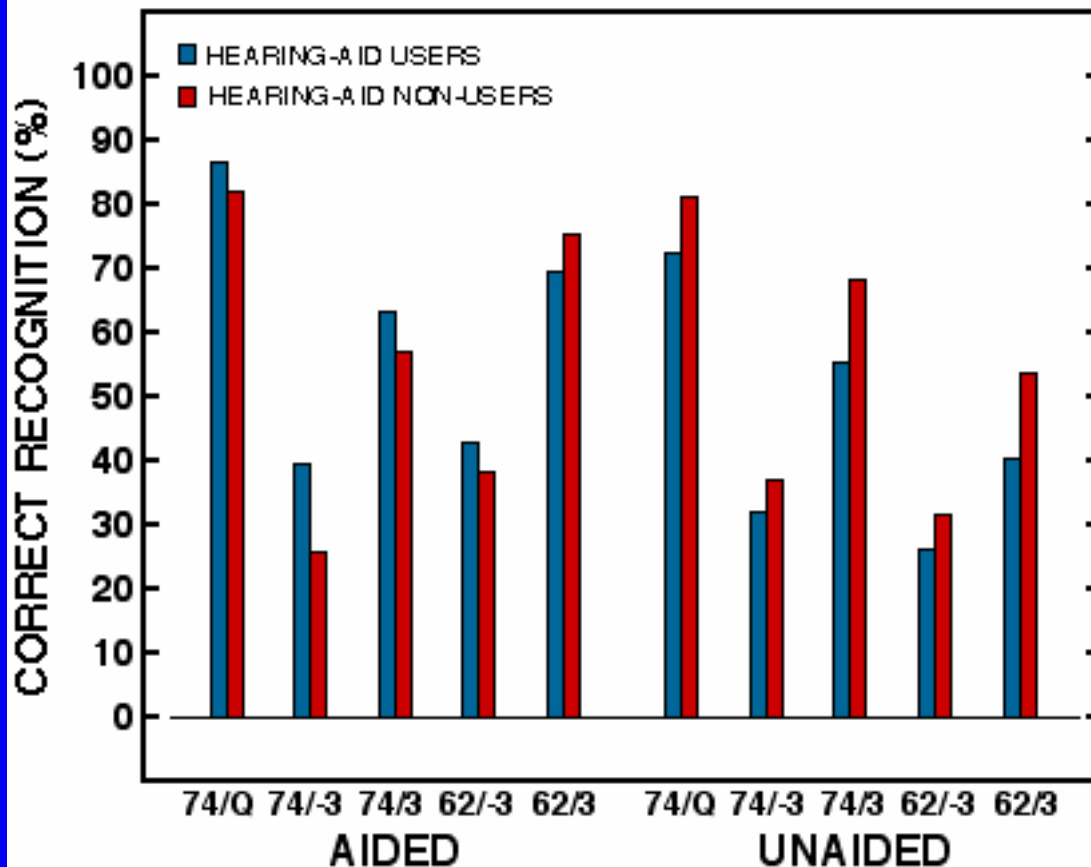
RESULTS: CST

- The greater hearing-aid benefit in the follow-up study for the 62/3 and 74/Q conditions probably reflects the 10 dB decrease in hearing sensitivity by the subjects since the original study.



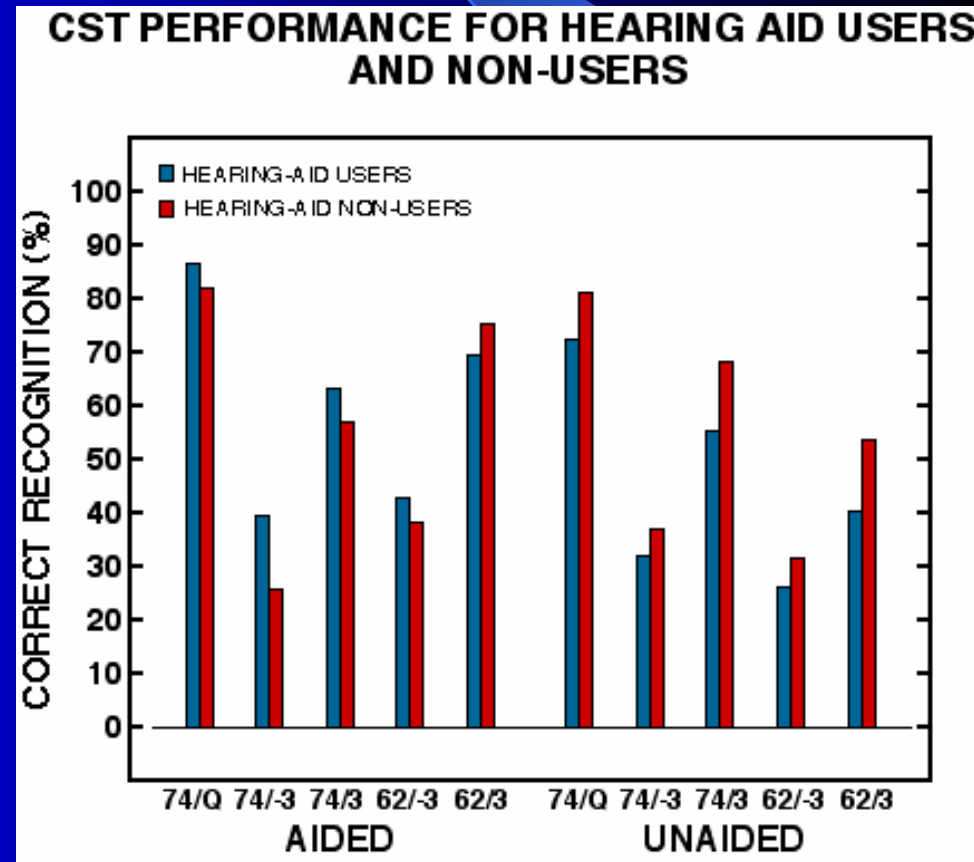
RESULTS: CST

CST PERFORMANCE FOR HEARING AID USERS AND NON-USERS



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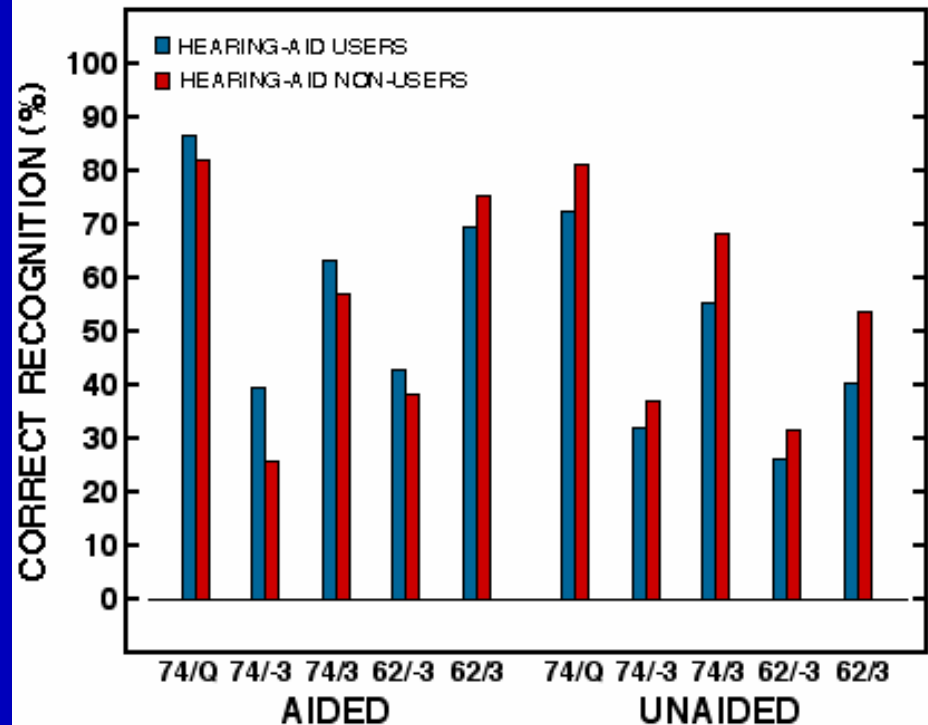
- Unaided performance (right half) was better for non-users than for hearing aid users.



RESULTS: CST

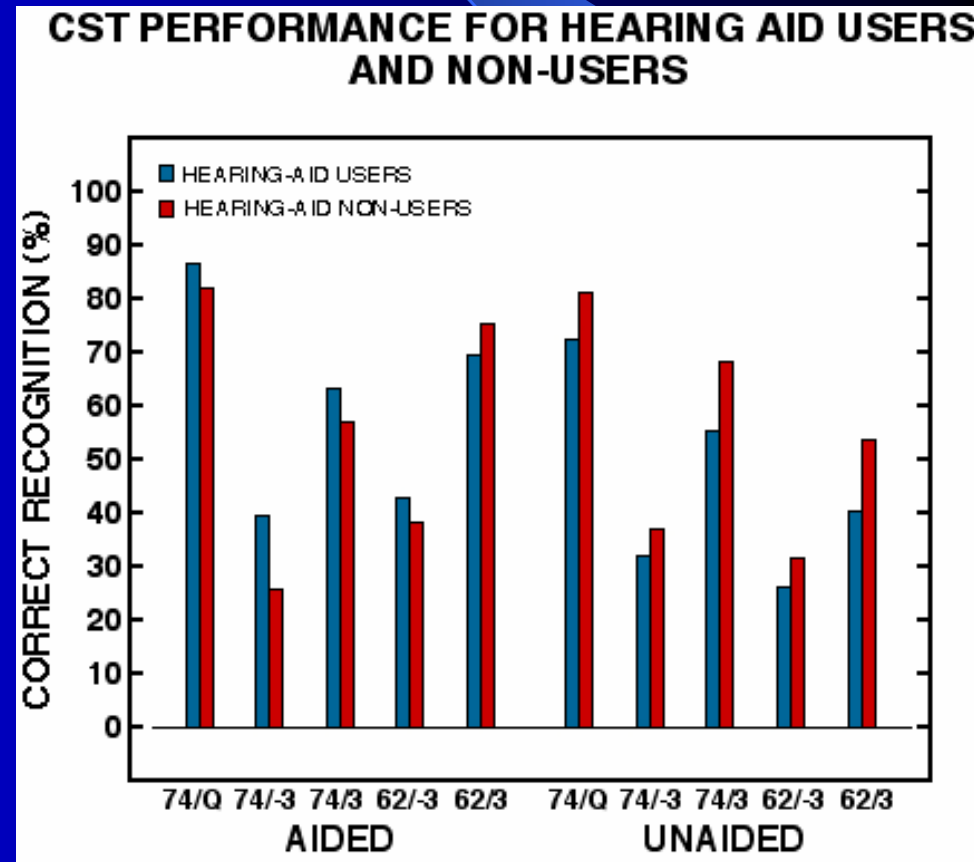
- Aided performance (left half), however, was better for hearing aid users than for non-users.

CST PERFORMANCE FOR HEARING AID USERS AND NON-USERS



RESULTS: CST

- None of the differences were significant.



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- Recognition performance was greatly affected by the addition of background noise, especially at the higher presentation levels
- As in the original study, aided recognition performance in noise decreased as presentation level increased
- Non-users tended to perform better unaided than users
- Performance on both NU6 and CST decreased since the original study
 - The average hearing sensitivity decreased 10 dB
 - The hearing aid gain was below target