

## ADULT REHAB

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

When I have difficulty understanding a conversation, I say:

1. Can you tell me again using **different words**?
2. Please **tell me more**.
3. (I didn't understand that). Can you **tell me that with fewer words**?
4. (Repeat part of the message). Can you **say the last part again**?
5. Can you please **tell me again slower**?
6. Can you please **tell me again louder**?
7. Can you please **tell me again closer to me**?
8. Provide feedback. I understand the part about \_\_\_\_\_, but I'm not sure I'm understanding you.

Research states that someone is more likely to understand a message following a communication breakdown if the *communication partner restructures* it rather than simply repeats what is said.

(Gagne' and Wyllie, 1989)

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## ADULT HABILITATION

### WAYS TO IMPROVE LISTENING SKILLS FOLLOWING COCHLEAR IMPLANTATION



Speech tracking is a good way to practice listening for new cochlear implant recipients - individuals listening with a first or a second cochlear implant. Speech tracking is done with a partner who sits beside the listener. The partner reads while the listener follows along looking at the text. The partner then stops while reading aloud and then the listener continues reading (at the appropriate place). The listening task can be made more difficult by increasing the rate of reading. Substituting selected words increases the overall level of difficulty.

#### **SUGGESTIONS FOR SPEECH TRACKING:**

- ▶ Involve family and friends who are supportive.
- ▶ Have the person assisting sit beside you on the side of the implanted ear.
- ▶ Start with easy reading materials and slowly increase the level of difficulty of reading materials as the listener gains confidence.
- ▶ Use regular speaking volume (Do not read loudly).
- ▶ Minimize background noise. (Find a quiet place to practice speech tracking).
- ▶ Use speech that is full of expression and natural rhythm.