

AHMET ALPEREN AKBULUT, PhD(c)

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EDUCATION

MARMARA UNIVERSITY

Istanbul, Türkiye

Ph.D. in Audiology and Speech Disorders, Sept. 2021–Ongoing
Thesis: Ongoing research on cochlear implants, music, and memory.
GPA: 4.00

MARMARA UNIVERSITY

Istanbul, Türkiye

Master of Science (M.Sc.), Audiology and Speech Disorders, Sept. 2017–Aug.2019
Thesis: 'Turkish adaptation of the 'music-related quality of life questionnaire'
GPA: 4.00, High Honors Student

ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY

Istanbul, Türkiye

Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.), Audiology, Sept. 2013–June 2017
Graduation Project: 'Evaluation of Cochlear Functions and Hidden Hearing Loss in Normal Hearing Individuals with and without Tinnitus Using Objective Methods'
GPA: 3.44

ARTEVELDE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Gent, Belgium

Intensive Programme on Audiology Across Borders (IPAB)
Intensive Training Programme, April 2015

ANKARA UNIVERSITY TÖMER

Trabzon, Türkiye

English Proficiency Diploma (B2 Level), November 2008–March 2010
Diploma No: 40686

ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LECTURER

2020–Present

Department of Audiology, Hamidiye Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Health Sciences
Istanbul, Türkiye

- Teaching undergraduate courses in audiology and clinical audiology practices
- Supervising research projects and clinical internships

CLINICAL SPECIALIST

2017–2020

Advanced Bionics, Istanbul, Türkiye

- Provided technical and clinical support for cochlear implant users
- Conducted research on cochlear implant fitting and rehabilitation

RESEARCH FOCUS

VERBAL AND MUSICAL MEMORY IN PEDIATRIC COCHLEAR IMPLANT USERS

Jan. 2025 – Present

Lead Researcher, **Auditory & Musical Memory Assessment**

- Designing a game-based test software to evaluate verbal and musical short-term memory in pediatric cochlear implant users
- Investigating the relationship between verbal and musical short-term memory in pediatric cochlear implant users
- Assessing music perception abilities and their impact on auditory and cognitive development
- Conducting neurophysiological measurements to examine auditory processing and memory-related brain responses

PEDIATRIC MUSIC-RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE DEVELOPMENT

2024 – Present

Researcher, **Questionnaire Adaptation & Validation**

- Developing a pediatric version of the Music-Related Quality of Life Questionnaire for children
- Refining technical terms (e.g., rhythm, melody) to enhance comprehension among children and pediatric cochlear implant users
- Conducting psychometric validation and pilot testing to ensure reliability and usability

Researcher, *Psychoacoustics & Sound Quality Assessment*

- Designed a Turkish-adapted version of the MUSHRA framework for evaluating sound quality perception
- Conducted validation studies with native-Turkish-speaking cochlear implant users
- Assessed the sound quality perception in native-Turkish-speaking cochlear implant users using the validated TR-MUSHRA software

AUDITORY PERCEPTION TRAINING APP FOR COCHLEAR IMPLANT USERS**Sept. 2016 – June 2017****Researcher, *Temporal & Speech Processing***

- Developing a mobile application to train auditory perception in cochlear implant users
- Implementing temporal processing and speech perception tasks to improve listening skills
- Designing an adaptive training framework that adjusts difficulty based on user performance

RESEARCH GRANTS

Principal Investigator, 2025 – Present: *Assessment of Verbal and Musical Short-Term Memory in Children with Cochlear Implants: Relationship with Music Perception and Neurophysiological Responses.* Funded by Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK), Grant Number: 324S105, 84.900,00 TL (\$2,500)

Researcher, 2018 – 2019: *Development and Evaluation of TR-MUSHRA (Multiple Stimulus with Hidden Reference and Anchor for Turkish People).* Funded by Higher Education Council, Grant Number: SAG-A-110618-0289, 10.200,00 TL (\$2,600)

RESEARCH MENTORSHIPS & PROJECTS

Advisor, 2024 – 2025: *Fibromyalgia Syndrome and Audiological Effects: Comprehensive Assessment of Auditory Function and Speech Understanding in Noise.* Supported by Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK), Grant Number: 1919B012321084

Advisor, 2022 – 2024: *Impact of Retirement Activity Levels on Balance Function and Quality of Life in Individuals Over 65.* Supported by Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK), Grant Number: 1919B012202667

Advisor, 2022 – 2024: *Investigation of Speech Understanding in Noise Skills and Its Relationship with Hearing Handicap and Geriatric Depression Scores in Elderly Individuals.* Supported by Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK), Grant Number: 1919B012206711

Advisor, 2022 – 2024: *Assessment of the Relationship Between Noise-Induced Hearing Loss and Acoustic Reflex in Individuals with and Without Noise Exposure.* Supported by Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK), Grant Number: 1919B012211544

Researcher, 2016 – 2017: *Evaluation of Cochlear Functions and Hidden Hearing Loss by Objective Methods in Individuals with and without Tinnitus.* Graduation Research Project

AWARDS

- 2nd Prize in Oral Presentation Competition, Turkish Audiologists and Speech Disorders Association (2022)
1st Prize in Research Project Competition, 2nd National Istanbul Audiology Congress (2017)
2nd Prize in Research Project Competition, 2nd National Istanbul Audiology Congress (2017)

INVITED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Akbulut, A. A.** "The Future of Audiology: Innovations in Diagnostics and Rehabilitation." *4th International Congress of the Mirko Tos Hearing Research Center*. Ankara, Türkiye, October 2025
- Akbulut, A. A.** "Music Perception and Quality of Life in Cochlear Implants: The Role of Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs)." *12th National Hearing Aids and Implants Congress*. Istanbul, Türkiye, October 2025
- Akbulut, A. A.** "Optimizing Interaural Mismatch and Its Effect on Auditory Skills in Bilateral Cochlear Implant Users." *12th International Audiology & Speech Disorders Congress*. Gazi University, Ankara, Türkiye, October 2024
- Akbulut, A. A.** "Factors Affecting Performance After Cochlear Implantation." *Medeniyet Audiology Days*. Istanbul Medeniyet University, Istanbul Türkiye, May 2024
- Akbulut, A. A.** "Musical Perception and Quality of Life." *Audiology II. Spring Symposium*. Başkent University, Ankara, Türkiye, May 2024
- Akbulut, A. A.** "Minimal Hearing Loss and Its Clinical Implications." *Marmara Audiology Days 2023*. Marmara University, Istanbul, Türkiye, June 2023
- Akbulut, A. A.** "Optimizing Benefit in Auditory Implants: The Impact of Early Amplification and Early Cochlear Implantation on Optimal Outcomes." *11th National Audiology and Speech Disorders Congress*, Tarsus University, Türkiye, October 2022
- Akbulut, A. A.** "The Role of Audiology in Geriatric Rehabilitation." *Multidisciplinary Perspectives in Geriatric Rehabilitation*, University of Health Sciences, Türkiye, March 2022

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Küçük Ceyhan, A., **Akbulut, A. A.**, Yüksel, M., Terlemez, Ş. (2025). Unveiling Tech Trends: Exploring Tech Usage Patterns in Young Cochlear Implant Recipients. *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools*, 1-10. https://doi.org/10.1044/2025_LSHSS-25-00073
- Karaman Demirel, A., **Akbulut, A. A.**, Çiprut, A. A., & Bal, N. (2025). Exploring the Link Between Sound Quality Perception, Music Perception, Music Engagement, and Quality of Life in Cochlear Implant Recipients. *Audiology Research*, 15(4), 94. <https://doi.org/10.3390/audiolres15040094>
- Küçük Ceyhan, A., Alabay, E., **Akbulut, A. A.**, Men, A. F. (2025). Understanding the cochlear implant journey: A qualitative study on adult users' experiences. *Praxis of ORL* 13(3), 183-193. <https://doi.org/10.5606/kbbu.2025.54227>
- Polat, Z., **Akbulut, A. A.**, Satıcı, S., Sürmeli, R., & Sürmeli, M. (2025). Evaluation of Saccadic Abnormalities in Multiple Sclerosis Using a Novel Clinical Saccadometry Test. *Audiology and Neurotology*. <https://doi.org/10.1159/000546670>
- Akbulut, A. A.**, Demirel, A. K., & Çiprut, A. (2025). Music Perception and Music-Related Quality of Life in Adult Cochlear Implant Users: Exploring the Need for Music Rehabilitation. *Ear and Hearing*, 46(1), 265-276. <https://doi.org/10.1097/AUD.0000000000001580>
- Akbulut, A. A.**, Demirel, A. K., Sağlı, Y., Satıcı, S., Özcan, A. K., & Çiprut, A. (2025). Examining the Burnout of Audiologists in Türkiye: Relationships With Quality of Work Life and Psychological Well-Being. *American Journal of Audiology*, 34(1), 84-96. https://doi.org/10.1044/2024_AJA-24-00120

- Özcan, A. K., Satıcı, S., **Akbulut, A. A.**, Kılıç, M., Çankaya, S., & Polat, Z. (2025). Investigation of video ocular counter-roll findings according to head and body tilt positions in healthy subjects. *Ear and Hearing*, 46(1), 53-59. <https://doi.org/10.1097/AUD.0000000000001563>
- Satıcı, S., Özcan, A. K., Çankaya, S., Kiliç, M., **Akbulut, A. A.**, & Polat, Z. (2025). Normal İşiten Genç Yetişkinlerde Akustik Refleks Latans Testi Bulguları. *KBB-Forum*, 24 (2), 135-141.
- Akbulut, A. A.**, Tokgöz, G., Taştepe, A., Baymaz, S. N., Keskin, C., & Polat, Z. (2024). The Effect of Post-Retirement Activity Status on Balance Functions and Quality-of-Life in Individuals Aged 65 and Over. *Journal of Academic Research in Medicine*, 14(3), 106-114. <https://doi.org/10.4274/jarem.galenos.2024.44153>
- Akbulut, A.A.**, Çiprut, A., Akdeniz, E. et al. Translation and validation of the music-related quality of life questionnaire for adults with cochlear implant in Turkish language. *Eur Arch Otorhinolaryngol* 279, 685–693 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00405-021-06693-w>
- Arslan, N. Ö., **Akbulut, A. A.**, Köse, B., Karaman-Demirel, A., & Derinsu, U. (2021). Sound quality perception of cochlear implant recipients: low-frequency information and foreign-language effect. *International Journal of Audiology*, 61(12), 1045–1053. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14992027.2021.2005833>
- Kara E, Aydın K, **Akbulut A. A.**, Karakol SN, Durmaz S, Yener HM, et al. Assessment of Hidden Hearing Loss in Normal Hearing Individuals with and Without Tinnitus. *J Int Adv Otol* 2020; 16(1): 87-92.
- Conference Proceedings**
- Akbulut A. A.**, Küçük Ceyhan A., Terlemez Ş., Yüksel M. (2025). Technology Use in Young Cochlear Implant Recipients and Its Differences from Typically Hearing Peers. 2nd International Pediatric Audiology Congress, Istanbul, Türkiye
- Özgün D., Akbulut A. A.**, Polat Z., Özdemir E., Günel P.S., Binikli S. (2025). Fibromiyalji Sendromunda İşitsel Fonksiyonların ve Gürültüde Konuşmayı Anlama Becerisinin Kapsamlı İncelenmesi: Ön Bulgular. Medipol Odyoloji Kongresi, Istanbul, Türkiye
- Kılıç M., **Akbulut A. A.**, Kartal Özcan A., Satıcı S., Çankaya S. (2024). The Effects of Omnidirectional and M&RIE Directionality Technologies on Speech Intelligibility in Noise. 3rd International Congress of the Mirko Tos Ear & Hearing Research Center, Edirne, Türkiye
- Demirel A., **Akbulut A. A.**, Yeter S., Satıcı S., Kartal Özcan A. (2024). Odyologlarda Tükenmişliğin İncelenmesi. XII. Uluslararası Katılımlı Odyoloji & Konuşma Bozuklukları Kongresi, Ankara, Türkiye
- Akbulut A. A.**, Küçük Ceyhan A., Terlemez Ş., Yüksel M. (2024). Exploring Tech Usage Patterns in Young Cochlear Implant Recipients: Preliminary Findings. 36th World Congress of Audiology, Paris, France
- Akbulut A. A.**, Özgün D., Polat Z., Özdemir E. F., Günel P. S., Binikli S. (2024). Fibromyalgia Syndrome and Audiological Implications: Comprehensive Evaluation of Auditory Functions and Speech Understanding in Noise. 36th World Congress of Audiology, Paris, France
- İçöz B., Şanlı G., Belge A., Özdemir F. N., **Akbulut A. A.** (2023). İşitme Kaybının Yaşlılarda Kontralateral Gürültüde Konuşmayı Anlama Performansına Etkisi: Ön Bulgular. Marmara Odyoloji Günleri 2023, İstanbul, Türkiye
- Tokgöz G., Taştepe A., Baymaz S. N., Keskin C., **Akbulut A. A.** (2023). Yaşlılarda Aktiflik Durumunun Denge Becerileri ve Yaşam Kalitesi Üzerine Etkisi: Preliminer Bulgular. Marmara Odyoloji Günleri 2023, İstanbul, Türkiye

- Polat Z., Satıcı S., **Akbulut A. A.**, Sürmeli R., Sürmeli M. (2023). Multiple Skleroz Hastalarında Klinik Sakkadometre Bulguları. 10. Ulusal Otoloji Nörotoloji Kongresi ve 12. Koklear İmplantasyon Odyoloji Kongresi, Muğla, Türkiye
- Akbulut A. A.**, Karaman A., Çiprut A. A. (2023). Yetişkin Koklear İmplant Kullanıcılarının Müzik Algılarının ve Müzikle İlgili Yaşam Kalitelerinin İncelenmesi. 10. Ulusal Otoloji Nörotoloji Kongresi ve 12. Koklear İmplantasyon Odyoloji Kongresi, Muğla, Türkiye
- Kartal A., Satıcı S., **Akbulut A. A.**, Kiliç M., Çankaya S., Polat Z. (2022). Ocular Counter-Roll Test Bulgularının Baş ve Gövde Pozisyon Değişikliklerine Göre İncelenmesi. XI. Ulusal Odyoloji ve Konuşma Bozuklukları Kongresi, Tarsus, Mersin
- Satıcı S., Çankaya S., Kartal A., Kiliç M., **Akbulut A. A.**, Polat Z. (2022). Normal İşiten Genç Yetişkinlerde Akustik Refleks Latans Testi Bulguları. XI. Ulusal Odyoloji ve Konuşma Bozuklukları Kongresi, Tarsus, Mersin
- Karaman A., **Akbulut A. A.**, Çiprut A. A. (2022). Koklear İmplant Kullanıcılarında Müzikal Ses Kalitesi Algısı ile Müzik Algısı ve Müzik Etkinlikleri Arasındaki İlişkinin İncelenmesi. XI. Ulusal Odyoloji ve Konuşma Bozuklukları Kongresi, Tarsus, Mersin
- Akbulut A. A.**, Çiprut A. A., Akdeniz E., Batman A. Ç. (2019). Müzikle İlgili Yaşam Kalitesi Anketinin Türkçeye Uyarlanması. Marmara Odyoloji Günleri 2019, İstanbul, Türkiye
- Köse B., **Akbulut A. A.**, Karaman A., Derinsu U., Çiprut A. A. (2019). Assesment of Sound Quality Perception in Native-Turkish Speaking Cochlear Implant Users Using TR-MUSHRA. 14th European Symposium on Pediatric Cochlear Implantation, Bucharest, Romania
- Akbulut A. A.**, Aydın K., Karakol S. N., Durmaz S., Kara E. (2017). İşitmesi Normal, Tinnitusu Olan ve Olmayan Bireylerde Objektif Yöntemlerle Koklear Fonksiyonların ve Gizli İşitme Kaybının Değerlendirilmesi. 2. İstanbul Ulusal Odyoloji Kongresi, İstanbul, Türkiye

Book Chapters

- Akbulut, A. A.** & Karaman Demirel, A. & Çiprut, A. (2023). Cochlear Implantation for Single-Sided Deafness. In: Bilgili, A. (ed.), International Studies in Health Sciences-IV. Özgür Publications. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.58830/ozgur.pub304.c1242>

CERTIFICATIONS, COURSES & TRAININGS

Yeditepe University Science School for Graduate Students in Health Sciences TUBITAK 2237-A Project Preparation Course	December 2022
Interacoustics Academy BPPV: Diagnosis and Treatment, Interacoustics Academy (March 2021)	March 2021
Interacoustics Academy Peripheral Abnormalities in VNG: Spontaneous/Positional Nystagmus and Caloric Tests	February 2021
Interacoustics Academy Central Abnormalities in VNG: Oculomotor and Gaze Tests	February 2021
Interacoustics Academy Independent Testing of Semicircular Canals and Otoliths: vHIT, VEMPs, OCR, and SVV	February 2021
University of Michigan Hearing Loss in Children, Pediatric Audiology Course (Online)	December 2020
Koç University 4th Suna Kırış Workshop on Neurodegenerative Disease, International Comprehensive Workshop	September 2019

Duke University
The Brain and Space (Online Course)

April 2017

The University of Chicago
Understanding the Brain: The Neurobiology of Everyday Life (Online Course)

April 2017

University of California, Davis
Autism Spectrum Disorder (Online Course)

January 2017

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

İşitme Atölyesi, Founder

October 2020 - Present

A platform dedicated to sharing information, reviews, news and professional experiences in the field of Audiology.

Conference Organization Committee Member
Marmara Audiology Days 2023, Marmara University

June 3-4, 2023

Project and Research Competition Jury Member
V. International Istanbul Audiology Congress, Istanbul University - Cerrahpaşa

May 13-14, 2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Programming & Data Analysis: MATLAB, Python, SPSS
- Audio Analysis & Signal Tools: Audacity, Praat, Adobe Audition
- Languages: Native Turkish, Fluent English
- Web Tools: Wix, Canva

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

*University of Health Sciences, Hamidiye Faculty of Health Sciences
Department of Audiology*

2019 – Present