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*Mosquitoes in My Ear*

This research project was conducted to see the effect of age and gender on the ability to hear high frequency sounds. It was hypothesized that as people age, their ability to hear high frequency sounds decreases and that gender will not have an effect on hearing ability.

Subjects were asked to wear noise-cancelling headphones. Using the “Frequencies Pro” software application on the iPad, subjects were exposed to sounds of different frequencies from low to high until test subject can’t hear, starting at 8 kHz and going up by increments of one kilohertz. The highest frequency that a test subject could hear was recorded, along with age and gender of the test subject. The test was repeated to include subjects in different age groups and gender.

There was no significant difference between males and females of the same age in their ability to hear high frequency sounds. The data shows that the ability to hear high frequency sounds decreases drastically with age.

There was significant deterioration in hearing ability between the ages of 20 and 40 and again from 60 to 80. This led to the conclusion that no one over the age of 25 could hear frequencies above 15 kHz. Almost everyone under the age of 20 could hear 19+ kHz.