Studies of nasalization

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III. SPEECH PRODUCTION

A. STUDIES OF NASALIZATION

Studies of synchronous records of cine-radiographic films and sound spectrograms have been performed on cleft palate subjects before and after operation and also on a control material of normal subjects. These studies have enabled a correlation between the degree of velo-pharyngeal opening and the nasalization element as seen in the spectrogram. The visual effects in a spectrogram of assimilated nasalization of vowel segments in immediate contact with a nasal consonant are small compared with those of the heavily nasalized speech of cleft palate subjects. A normal person can, however, to some extent simulate this pathological speech. Spectrographic pictures of simulated speech accordingly show a similarity to cleft palate speech.

Listening tests for assessment of speaker quality support the relative degrees of nasalization seen in the spectrographic and cine-radiographic material.

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