

# CIICA LIVE

# THE GLOBAL IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON CI USERS/FAMILIES AND SERVICES

**THURSDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2022**

**19.00 UK, 20:00 CET, 14:00 EST, 11:00  
PST, FRIDAY 25 FEBRUARY, 06:00 AEDT,  
08:00 NZ**

**Welcome to CIICA LIVE on our 1st Anniversary by Leo De Raeve our Acting Chair**

**Videos of the impact of the pandemic from our global network**

<b>Introducing our speakers</b>	<b>Cathy Birman</b>
<b>Hearing today and tomorrow</b>	<b>Adrian Davis</b>
<b>Our global conversation on the Pandemic</b>	<b>Anita Grover</b>
<b>Listening to Children and Families</b>	<b>Vahishtai Daboo</b>
<b>Adult CI Users: our experiences in the pandemic</b>	<b>Lidia Best</b>
<b>Real life accesibility to hearing technologies - who is afraid of hearing?</b>	<b>Michal Luntz</b>
<b>Students with Cochlear Implants in a Pandemic: How are they doing?</b>	<b>Connie Mayer</b>
<b>Round up – what now.....</b>	

**English, French, Italian, Spanish, German and Danish captioning will be available.**

**We will welcome comments and questions in the chat room and will make time for discussion.**

### LEO DE RAEVE

Leo is a teacher of the deaf, working with many deaf children and their families, and has been involved with cochlear implantation since the very early days. He established ONICI in Belgium as an Information and Education website and organisation for CI and works globally to improve provision. He is now Acting Chair of CIICA, Scientific Advisor EURO-CIU and Director ONICI



### CATHERINE BIRMAN

Clinical Professor Catherine Birman is the Medical Director of Next Sense- formerly Sydney CI Centre. She was the NSW Premier's Woman of the Year in recognition of her work for Cochlear implant recipients. She is passionate about awareness, access and long term maintenance of hearing through Cochlear Implants and about hearing screening- for children and adults.

Huge congratulations to Cathy who was given the Medal of the Order of Australia, on Australia Day!



### PROF ADRIAN DAVIS, OBE

Adrian is a retired public health professor who worked mainly on hearing and vision problems. He has visiting appointments at UCL, Imperial and LSE in London and also the Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge. He worked with the Global Burden of Disease team in Seattle and specialised in local UK burden of disease and hearing disability globally. His work on developmental disability can be seen at grddc.org . He was Director of the Newborn Hearing Screening and Newborn Physical Examination Programmes. He also works on equality of access of hearing tests for people with Autism or Learning Disability. Adrian enjoys poetry, including those of his partner, Kathryn Southworth.



### ANITA GROVER

Anita Grover is Chief Executive of AVUK following a 20 year career in the public sector. As a senior civil servant, she led communications on the government's disability, employers, pensions and poverty agendas, working with a succession of cabinet ministers, business leaders and third sector organisations. Anita is profoundly deaf, having lost her hearing progressively from childhood. She had successful cochlear implant surgery in 2006 and brings her personal insight into hearing loss and a passion for improving outcomes for deaf children.



### **VAHISHTAI DABOO**

Vahishtai Daboo is parent of a 24 year old son with bilateral cochlear implants and is Co-founder & Managing Trustee of VConnect Foundation, a Parent Support group working with families and children with hearing loss across India. She is a Listening and Spoken Language Specialist, Certified Auditory Verbal Therapist and a Mental Health Practitioner. Vahishtai is based in Mumbai, India and looks forward to joining us.



### **LIDIA BEST, IAAP CPACC**

Lidia Best is a CI user who is an internationally recognised accessibility expert, an action advocate for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing and global ICT standards writer. She is the President of the European Federation of Hard of Hearing People (EFHOH) and the Chair of the National Association of Deafened People (UK). She is part of the World Hearing Forum, being very active in the Make Listening Safe Group. She is passionate about Accessibility for deaf and hard of hearing people – have a look at her contribution to CIICA's Current Issues.



### **MICHAL LUNTZ**

Prof Michal Luntz is a Surgeon-Scientist in Otology and Implantable Hearing Solutions, and a CI User based in Tel Aviv, Israel. She is the President of the Israel Society for Auditory Research and a Board Member of Bekol – the Israeli Association for Hearing Impaired. Michal has always worked closely with audiologists, teachers of the deaf, and family groups. During the pandemic, she has found that the need of hearing technology, with emphasize on getting it right, is even more important.



### **CONNIE MAYER**

Connie Mayer is a Professor in the Faculty of Education at York University and Academic Co-ordinator of the Teacher Preparation Program in the Education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) students. Before this, Connie worked as a teacher of the deaf for more than twenty years in a range of communication settings and her special interests are in language and literacy, CI in children, communication approaches and teacher education. She is currently working on research on literacy outcomes in deaf children, and is leading CIICA's research into adult services after CI.

