

Dr. Brian J. McKinnon was an Invited Speaker at the University of Würzburg!

The University of Würzburg 25th Course on Microsurgery of the Middle Ear is an annual program bringing together the top physicians and surgeons to teach and discuss the art and craft of otologic and neurotologic surgery. Held February 25-27, 2013 in Würzburg, Germany, Dr. Brian J. McKinnon was invited to present his work on improving hearing in patients with congenital aural atresia using implantable hearing devices.

A neurotologist and the newest member of the Shea Ear Clinic, Dr. Brian J. McKinnon has had a long interest in the use of technology to address hearing loss, presenting nationally and internationally on this topic. His recent work has been to spearhead an international multisite clinical investigation of the Vibrant Soundbridge in the treatment of congenital aural atresia. In his presentation, Dr. Brian J. McKinnon presented that the Vibrant Soundbridge, widely used outside the US, can markedly improve the hearing of patients which are not candidates for conventional surgery. The study was performed in collaboration with surgeons who are outside the U.S. who experienced in aural atresia surgery surgeons.

These are exciting findings as the clinical and surgical management of congenital aural atresia is complex and exacting, and gives more opportunities for better hearing in patients previously not helped by other reconstructive techniques. This work has been submitted for publication, so these exciting results can be shared even more broadly.