

Differing responses to lidocaine as a basis for categorising tinnitus

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Previous studies have shown that an intravenous bolus of lidocaine may temporarily eliminate, reduce or increase tinnitus or have no effect on it. These differing responses to lidocaine are one way to categorise tinnitus. Previously we have attempted to use the response to intravenous lidocaine to predict a subsequent therapeutic response to certain oral anticonvulsants. We now seek to work with others to try and correlate responses to the lignocaine test (which is comparatively quick and cheap) with other methods for categorising tinnitus and subsequently with responses to varying types of treatment.

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