

## CURRENT POSTGRADUATE STUDENT

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PROGRAM	PhD in Surgery		
DATE OF REGISTRATION	1 Nov, 2014		
SUPERVISOR	Professor LEE Yuet Sheung Kathy		
FIELD OF RESEARCH / INTENDED THESIS TITLE	Lexical tone perception and cortical organization		
KEYWORDS FOR RESEARCH	Lexical tone perception, functional magnetic resonance imaging, repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation, Cantonese, Mandarin		

## **RESEARCH STUDY:**

Tonal language refers to a language that uses fixed pitch pattern to distinguish words (Yip, 2002). Individuals with significant hearing impairment often present great difficulty in lexical tone perception, affecting their understanding of words and hence, hampers their overall communication. The poor lexical tone perception persists even with advanced hearing devices and intensive auditory training. The present study aims to understand the functional anatomy of the brain during lexical tone processing. By applying rTMS on the found area(s) for lexial tone perception, it is hope that such findings could provide useful hints for an effective intervention strategy to enhance lexical tone processing in Cantonese speakers and Mandarin speakers with severe or profound hearing impairment.

CONFERENCE TITLE / ABSTRACT / POSTER:

NA