Table 2 Test for Critical Period of Effects of Conductive Deafness

N	Age (d) when ear-plugged	Age (d) when tested	Audiogenic seizure test L	W	C	T	F	SS
10	17	22	9	8	4	4	4	50 (±13.8)
10	17	25	9	9	5	4	3	52.5 (±12)
12	17	28	10	5	1	1	1	20 (±9.5)
10	28	33	—	1	1	0	0	5 (±4.5)
10	28	36	—	0	0	0	0	0 (±0)
10	28	39	—	2	0	0	0	5 (±3.3)

See Table 1 for explanation of letters.

upon the extreme fatigability which has been seen in ears with conductive deafness[9].

The 12 dB residual attenuation found in mice immediately after removal of their earplugs was close to the 14 dB threshold attenuation found in mice 2–4 d after acoustic trauma[10]. It seems unlikely that so small a hearing loss would produce disuse supersensitivity, so it is more probable that the larger hearing loss which occurred immediately after earplugging at 17 d of age was responsible for the production of seizure susceptibility; that is, a critical period exists for seizures resulting from conduction loss, similar to that which exists for acoustic trauma[1]. If this is the case, it would support the notion that auditory disuse only during a critical period is the mechanism by which both techniques produce susceptibility to audiogenic seizures. The third experiment examined this question.

C57Bl/6J mice were earplugged at either 17 or 28 d after birth. Acoustic trauma during the earlier age induces susceptibility to audiogenic seizures, whereas trauma during the latter age is virtually ineffective[11]. Mice were tested for audiogenic seizures 5, 8, or 11 d later. The data (Table 2) indicate that conductive loss only at the earlier age produced marked susceptibility to audiogenic seizures. This effect was not due to declining susceptibility with increasing age, for mice acoustically traumatized during the critical period maintain susceptibility to sound-produced convulsions for at least 3 weeks[11]. These results suggest that auditory disuse only during a critical period is effective in producing an exaggerated behavioural response to sound.

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Erratum

IN the article "Separate Helper Functions provided by Adenovirus for Adenovirus-associated Virus Multiplication" by B. J. Carter, F. J. Koczot, J. Garrison, J. A. Rose and R. Dolin (*Nature new Biol.*, **244**, 71; 1973), the first sentence in paragraph 6 should read "The initiation of AAV RNA synthesis is at least temporally associated with a late increase in . . .". Also, in the body of the text, Fig. 1 should read Fig. 2 and *vice versa* throughout.

Corrigendum

IN the article "Structural and Functional Evidence for a Repeated 50S Subunit Ribosomal Protein" by P. Thammana, C. G. Kurland, E. Deusser, J. Weber, R. Maschler, G. Stöffler, and H. G. Wittmann (*Nature new Biol.*, **242**, 47; 1973), the last sentence of the legend to Table 1 should read ". . . based on sequence studies by Terhorst *et al.*[13]". Reference 13 then becomes Terhorst, C., *et al.*, *FEBS Lett.*, **28**, 325 (1972).

Reference Abbreviations

FROM September 1 it is *Nature's* intention that all abbreviations of references should conform to the style of the *World List of Scientific Periodicals*, fourth ed. (Butterworth, 1963–65). The changeover will be gradual and authors submitting manuscripts from now on are asked to ensure that the references are written appropriately.

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