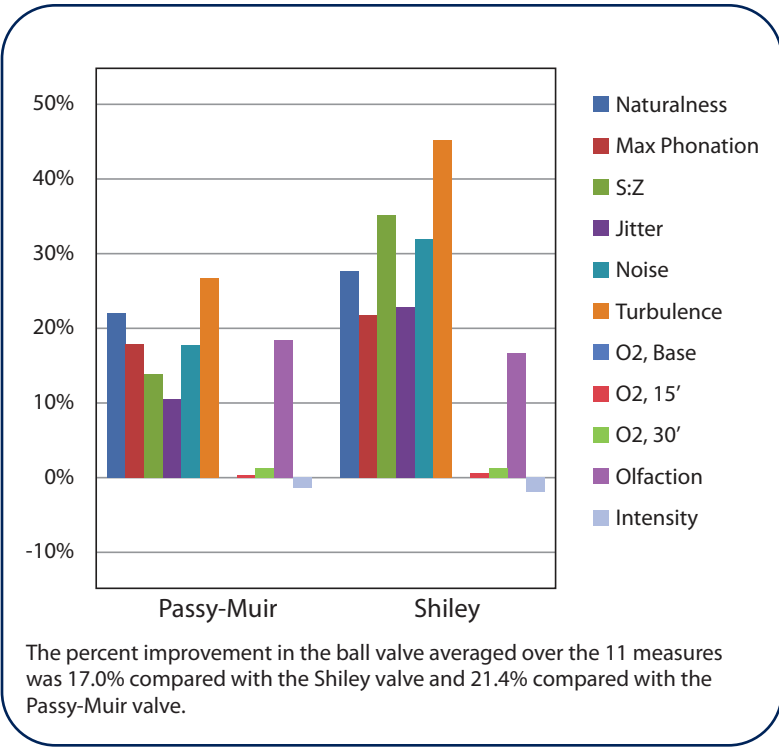


## Clinical study of the Shikani Speaking Valve as compared to Shiley and Passy-Muir speaking valves

A controlled prospective IRB-approved clinical study was accomplished to compare the speech parameters and clinical characteristics of these different speaking valves.

The means and standard deviations of the percent improvement of the Shikani Speaking Valve as compared to the Shiley and Passy-Muir valves are shown graphically below.



Eighty percent of the patients subjectively preferred the ball valve with the low visual profile and ease of breathing cited as the two reasons for preference.

## Shikani Speaking Valve users and clinicians express themselves...

"It felt so good to be able to breathe and talk without feeling like I was suffocating."

"We really feel like it was the catalyst to her finding her voice and she is quite the talker now."

"Peyton had a great experience with the Shikani Speaking Valve and I recommend it to other parents whose children are struggling using the Passy-Muir valve."

"Up until this point I had been very depressed about having the trach because it had been so difficult to breathe and exerted so much energy to breathe with the PMV."

"I can honestly say I don't know where I'd be without the Shikani Speaking Valve because it literally gave me back my life."

"I used this valve for a 17 month old girl with a tracheostomy who was unable to tolerate other valves for any length of time. The Shikani Speaking Valve allowed her the ability to breathe more freely without the 'panicked' look on her face that she would get from other valves. This resulted in longer periods of tolerating the valve and, in effect, more time for sound play during therapy!"

"This valve has been more readily accepted than other valves we have used."

"We LOVE the Shikani Speaking Valve!"