

Sensory integrative therapy for speech production in Down syndrome children

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ABSTRACT

Children with Down syndrome have delayed speech development. One of the causes was sensory integrative impairment. The objective of this study was to compare the speech production of Children with Down syndrome with sensory integrative intervention and the control group. An experimental study was conducted. A pre-test/post- test experimental design was used in this study. The convenience sampling of ten Children with Down syndrome had no history of heart disease, hearing problem, seizure, and blind. The age of subjects was one. The subjects divided into two groups. The experimental group was five Children with Down syndrome who received sensory integrative intervention. Sensory integrative therapy was sixty minutes per session and one per week for one year. Clinical session consisted of vestibular stimulation, tilt table and play toy. The control group was five Children with Down syndrome without intervention. Each subject group was two females and three males. The Paired sample t- test was used to compare speech word before intervention and after one year of intervention. The result of this study showed that all of children in the experimental groups produced single word at the age of two years. The mean of age that child produced first word was twenty months. The average of single word that child produced was two. The experiment group produced words more significantly than the control group($p=0.05$) But the control group did not produce any word. It was found that speech production increased significantly after one year intervention ($p=0.05$). At the age of two, Down syndrome who had sensory integrative therapy produced words significantly. Early sensory integrative intervention made children imitate speech word. Children acquired much speech words by imitating from parent.

Keywords: sensory integration, Down syndrome