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Edited by Prof. K. A. L. A. Kuruppuarachchi and Others

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Oral Presentations

Disability in Childhood

01.	The Integration of Multilingualism and Culture into Augmentative and Alternative Communication Services Provided to Children in Kwazulu-Natal and Gauteng, South Africa	03	
	Ms. Charuna Kistasamy		
02.	The Review of Brain Development in Children and Ayurveda Brain Tonic Herbs	04	
	Dr. S. W. K. Karunarathna		
03.	The Use of Visual Schedules with Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders in Schools for Learners with Special Educational Needs	05	
	Ms. Jennifer Pahl		
04.	A Profile of Children with Cerebral Palsy: Identifying Unmet Needs in Health & Social Care	06	
	Dr. C. J. Wijesinghe		
05.	The Use of the IPad for Communication in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders: Perspectives of Parents, Educators and Speech-Language Therapists	07	
	Ms. Saira B. S. Karrim		
	Montal Health & Disability		

Mental Health & Disability

06. Prevalence and Correlates of Post Stroke Depress	sion at a Stroke 08
Unit in a Tertiary Care Hospital in Sri Lanka	

Dr. L. L. Amila Isuru

07. Assessing Accessibility for Children with Disabilities in Special 09 Education Needs Institutions in Mauritius

Ms. Chemen Sambaladevi

08. Physical Injuries Among Patients, on Admission to The National 10 Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), Sri Lanka

Dr. C. P. Abeywickrame

09. Impact of Dance, Drama, Yoga and Music Therapy Workshops onSymptom Reduction in a Group of Patients with Schizophrenia: ARandomized Controlled Study

Dr. L. L. Amila Isuru

Disability & Ageing

 10. Effect of a Music and Dance Programme on Balance and Function
 12

 in a Residential Geriatric Population
 12

 Prof. Threethambal Puckree 11. Socio-Demographic differences and Level of Disability on Frailty

 13
 of Elderly in Sri Lanka

Prof. K. A. P. Siddhisena

12. Causes of Severe Disabilities in Elderly of Lower Social Economic 14 Group in Singapore

Dr. Tan Jit Seng

13. Prevalence of Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of 15
Dementia and its Association with the Degree of Cognitive Impairment in Patients with Dementia Presenting to National Institute of Mental Health, Sri Lanka

Dr. L. L. Amila Isuru

Physical Health and Disability

14. Categorisation of Capabilities and Limitations of People with 16 Physical Disabilities to Perform Work-Activities

Ms. Kokila M. W. Abeykoon

15. An Intelligent Healthcare Productivity System for Community 17 Functional Screening – Physical Function

Dr. Bala S Rajaratnam

16. Study of Epidemiology in Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury Patients at18 the Main Spinal Rehabilitation Unit in Sri Lanka

Dr. H. Savidya Dhanushka Appuhamy

17. Comparing Hamstring Flexibility between the Transtibial Prosthetic Wearers and the Control Subjects and Assessing Factors Associated with Hamstring Flexibility	19
Ms. Kirishanthi Sivasubramaniam	
18. Club Foot: Orthotic Intervention & Preventing Later Disabilities	20
Ms. T. A. Anushika Priyadarshani Dayananda	
Laws and Rights Related to People with Disabilities	
19. Transport-Related Health Inequities Among People Living with Disabilities in Sri Lanka	21
Dr. Varuni Tennakoon	
20. Barrier Free and CSR	22
Mrs. Sarah Miriam Albert	
21. Issues Related to Implementation, Enforcement and Accountability of Disability Rights in Sri Lanka: Lessons from Americans with Disabilities Act(ADA)	23
Dr. Chandani Liyanage	
22. Ensuring Rights of Women with Disabilities (WWD) in Bangladesh: Laws and Concerns	24
Ms. Khandakar Kohinur Akter	
23. An Investigation into Knowledge and Attitudes of Mauritian People with Respect to Employment of Persons with Disabilities	25
Ms. Chemen Sambaladevi	

Services Provided

24. Asia First Integrated Community Fitness Centre – For Everybody	26
Mr. Satyaprakash Tiwari	
25. Health Services for Disability Rehabilitation in Sri Lanka	27
Dr. S. Maduwage	
26. Factors of Successful Return to Work Using Data from Disability Management Program in Malaysia	28
Dr. Halimah Awang	

27. Economic Empowerment Programme of People with Disabilities 29 through Setting Up 'Livelihoods Resource Centres'

Ms. Ann Sunil

Poster Presentation

1. Live-in Specialised Caregivers: Do We Need Really Them in 33 Singapore

Mr. Satyaprakash Tiwari

Virtual Presentations

01. Deviant Behavior: Psychological Prevention and Psychological Intervention	37
Akhmetzyanova A.I.	
02. Identification of Speech Development Retardation Risk in Young Children Brought up in a Bilingual Family	38
Kedrova I.A., Boltakova N.I.	
03. Social and Psychological Features of Disabled Students' Integration in The Inclusive Groups	39
Kurbanova A.T., Artisheva L.V.	
04. Teachers' Preparedness for Activity in the Context of Inclusive Practices	40
Kirillova E.A., Nabiullina R.K., Fayzrahmanova A.T.	
05. Latent Deviancy: Problems and Perspectives of Research	41
Akhmetzyanova A.I., Artemyeva T.V., Nigmatullina I.A., Tvardovskaya A.A.	
06. Treatment Education of Lexical and Grammatical Disorders's Constructions in Patients with Local Brain Lesions	42
Valiullina G.V.	



ORAL PRESENTATIONS





[01]

THE INTEGRATION OF MULTILINGUALISM AND CULTURE INTO AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION SERVICES PROVIDED TO CHILDREN IN KWAZULU-NATAL AND GAUTENG, SOUTH AFRICA

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ABSTRACT

Language and cultural identity is core to individual identity, and is a vital consideration for health professionals, especially in a country like South Africa. Diversity can influence how Speech-Language Therapists (SLTs) provide Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) services to children with complex communication needs. A qualitative study design was employed to explore the integration of multilingualism and culture into AAC services. Data was gathered from seven SLTs and five parents of children with severe communication disorders in South Africa using journals, individual interviews and written questionnaires. Thematic analysis of data revealed six themes. SLTs frequently used generic case history questionnaires unadapted for gathering information about language and culture. Families' linguistic background was considered but cultural influences were often not explored. Informal procedures, videos and toys from home or qualitative interpretation of standardized tests were utilized during assessment. Intervention was provided in the first language of the child with adaptation of aided and unaided communication systems. Family collaboration was important for intervention to be culturally appropriate. For school-aged children the language of learning and teaching is often an additional language, but is promoted to the detriment of the first language. SLTs experienced working cross linguistically and cross culturally as requiring more time and effort, but vital if the needs of children using AAC, and their families are to be met. Implications included SLTs working toward developing skill in providing culturally and linguistically relevant AAC services, utilising available and accessible resources and engaging more with CLD families on appropriate services.

Keywords: Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), Assessment, AAC intervention, culturally and linguistically diverse (CLD), Multilingual, Cross-linguistic, Cross-cultural



[02]

THE REVIEW OF BRAIN DEVELOPMENT IN CHILDREN AND AYURVEDA BRAIN TONIC HERBS

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ABSTRACT

Biologically, children are human between the stages of birth and puberty. Development consists two types. Physically development which mainly depends on nutrition intake and psycho-motor development. (Brain development) Also main nutrition helps to stimuli psycho-motor development. In my study I could review psycho-motor development divided in to four types. They are motor skills development, visual and fine motor development, speech and hearing development, social skills development. And also I could realize genetic and environmental influence effect on cognitive development of children. A child with welldeveloped brain is a gem of his family. A child's development is founded upon various related domains, all of which are influenced by biological, social, genetic and environmental factors that are vulnerable or favorable or adverse situation. Ayurveda brain herbs claims at not only increasing the powers of the brain but also at keeping the mental diseases away, along with helping to cure them desirable. It is believed that a number of the diseases have their root in the brain of an individual. That is one of the reasons why the number of psychological and neurological cases in on the increase. Shankapushpi (Convolvulus pluricaulis) ,Brahmi (Centella asiatica), Jatamansi (Nordostachys jatamansi), Shatavari (Asparagus recemosus) can be found as best four Ayurveda brain tonic herbs. The main aims of this review are realizing what is considered normal brain development and the various problem that can crop up along the anxiety drenched way and review the properties of best four Ayurveda brain tonic herbs. The theories of these topics were collected from authentic books and accepted websites.

Keywords: Shankapushpi, Brahmi, Jatamansi, Shatavari.



[03]

THE USE OF VISUAL SCHEDULES WITH CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS IN SCHOOLS FOR LEARNERS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

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ABSTRACT

The aim of the study was to explore the use of visual schedules with children with ASD in schools for Learners with Special Education Needs. This study took the form of a descriptive qualitative phenomenological research design. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with ten therapists and educators. The participants were selected using purposeful sampling. Thematic analysis yielded five main themes. The results showed that most participants conveyed positive experiences of using visual schedules. Visual schedules were being used in the classroom and therapy sessions. Carryover of the use of visual schedules occurred in the school. Between-activity schedules, within-activity schedules, social stories, work schedules, classroom and individual schedules were used by therapists and educators. Majority of participants described visual schedules as assisting in achieving their therapeutic and academic aims especially in the area of reading. Some participants conveyed that the visual schedules were not helping their learners and the learners were taking too long to learn new concepts. This could be attributed to the cognitive level of the child with ASD. The participants cited lack of resources as their most significant challenge. The other challenges included poor carry-over to the home setting and that creating visual schedules was time consuming. Participants reported that cost of colour printing for visual schedules, computers and visual schedules on iPads was costly. Implications of the study included the enforcement of policy and legislation and finding cost and time effective methods of setting up visual schedules.

Keywords: Communication, Learners with Special Educational Needs, Visual Schedules



[04]

A PROFILE OF CHILDREN WITH CEREBRAL PALSY: IDENTIFYING UNMET NEEDS IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

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ABSTRACT

Provision of care to a child with Cerebral Palsy (CP) requires individualized assessment and management of all associated problems. They need special education and their families need social support to face day-to-day demands of caregiving. We reviewed the characteristics of 375 children with CP attending Teaching Hospital, Karapitiya to identify their health problems and current level of health and social care utilization. Data were collected through questionnaire-based interviews with caregivers or extracted from child's medical records. The results revealed that approximately $2/3^{rd}$ of the children had spastic quadriplegic CP and 54% had some co-morbidity. The majority (30.9%) had 3-4 functional problems. Problems with mobility (77.6%), social activities of daily living (69.3%), bladder/bowel function (70.4%) and speech (57.9%) were the common functional problems. Learning difficulties were reported in 29.3%. Nearly 17% had behavioural and emotional problems. Approximately 98% of the children received physiotherapy. Despite higher numbers having problems with speech and activities of daily living, only 48% received speech therapy and less than 10% received occupational therapy. Among pre-school and school age children, over 70% had never attended school. Only 17.2% of school attendees received special education. Although nearly 70% was from rural, low socio-economic backgrounds, only 12.8% received any form of external financial support. We conclude that children with CP and their families have many unmet needs in the areas of therapy, special education and social support. These needs should be addressed adequately in developing long-term care plans for children with CP, in order to achieve better outcomes.

Keywords: cerebral palsy, unmet needs, health, special education, social



[05]

THE USE OF THE IPAD FOR COMMUNICATION IN CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS: PERSPECTIVES OF PARENTS, EDUCATORS AND SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPISTS

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to explore the perspectives of parents, educators and Speech-Language Therapists (SLTs) regarding the use of the iPad for communication in children with ASD. There is limited research regarding the use of the iPad for communication in children with ASD in South Africa and internationally, therefore this study attempted to provide information regarding the use of the iPad for communication, in order to inform Speech-Language Therapist practice. An embedded mixed methods research design was used. Five children with ASD between the ages of 5 to 11 who use the iPad to communicate, their parents (5), educators (5) and SLTs (5) were selected via non-probability purposive sampling. Data was gathered via semi-structured interviews and observation. Data was analyzed using content analysis and descriptive statistics. Results revealed that prior to the use of the iPad, difficulties understanding language and expressing needs and wants resulted in communication breakdowns. After use of the iPad, majority of participants have seen progress in their child's expressive language (i.e. requesting and making choices) and their education. The iPad was viewed as a good tool to facilitate communication and learning in the classroom and a device that is socially "normal". Parents found best results when the iPad was used for communication purposes only. Parents, educators and SLTs viewed the iPad as a device that improves their child's communication abilities, social interaction and facilitates learning in the classroom. Implications included the need for training SLTs and educators on how to use the iPad and to develop communication specific applications for a local cultural and linguistic context.

Keywords: communication, iPad, speech-language therapy, Autism Spectrum Disorder



[06]

PREVALENCE AND CORRELATES OF POST STROKE DEPRESSION AT A STROKE UNIT IN A TERTIARY CARE HOSPITAL IN SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

Post stroke depression (PSD) with prevalence figures between 20-50% is one of the commonest complications of stroke resulting in poorer rehabilitation outcomes, more functional disability, poorer quality of life and higher mortality. Objective is to determine the prevalence, demographic and clinical correlates of PSD in patients on a newly established stroke unit in a tertiary care hospital in Sri Lanka. A cross sectional descriptive study using an interviewer administered questionnaire containing demographic details and ICD 10 criteria for depression were administered among all consenting patients at the newly established stroke unit of a tertiary care hospital. Results Sample size was 168, prevalence of moderate to severe depression was 26.2%. Out of those depressed, 55.55% were male, 59.0% were above the age of 60years, 88.6% had an educational level below GCE O/L and 43.1% were dependent on alcohol and or tobacco. There was no statistically significant correlation between developing PSD and medical / psychiatric history or stroke related parameters. Multivariate analysis shows the odds of having depression is 1.9 and 2.4 times higher among patients who were unemployed and had post stroke dysarthria (p<0.001) respectively. In conclusion, 26.2% of stroke patients had severe depression needing psychiatric intervention. Although there were no association past medical or psychiatric parameters, the presence of post stroke dysarthria, and unemployment were important determinants in the development of PSD. This calls for further research to establish risk factors of PSD in our population and also in strengthening social services for these patients.



[07]

ASSESSING ACCESSIBILITY FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS INSTITUTIONS IN MAURITIUS

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ABSTRACT

Accessibility, whilst being a broad term covering all aspects of inclusion and participation including educational settings, plays a vital role in integration of people with disability in the community. In special education needs schools, physical accessibility is paramount to achievement of independence and integration for children. The aim was to assess the accessibility to SEN institutions for children using wheelchair in Mauritius. 20 SEN Schools were chosen using purposive sampling and classified into three types of institution: resource centres, schools for physically impaired and institutions for intellectually impaired. The instrument used was a survey form comprising of five accessibility areas: parking and exterior routes, slopes and ramps, rooms and seating, toilet rooms and single user compartments (comprising 66 items based on the ADA checklist for readily achievable barrier removal). The highest overall compliance scored was 71% and the lowest was 27%. The area with the highest compliant accessibility for all three types of institution was parking and exterior routes (100%) and the areas with the lowest compliance were slopes and ramps (0%) for all three types of institutions and single user compartments for intellectual impairment institutions. None of the institutions recorded 100% compliance. Any wheelchair user might have faced many architectural barriers when visiting these institutions surveyed in Mauritius. The results of this study show that much has been done for wheelchair accessibility in the public infrastructure, but more needs to be accomplished in schools and educational settings.

Keywords: accessibility, inclusion, special education need, wheelchair



[08]

PHYSICAL INJURIES AMONG PATIENTS, ON ADMISSION TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH (NIMH), SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to determine the prevalence and describe the injuries among patients, on admission to the NIMH from 1st January to 31st December 2014. The data was extracted from the Injury Reporting Form of NIMH.

There were 102 reports of injuries upon admission. Analysis was done only considering reported data. Prevalence of injuries was 1.2%; 53.1% Males, 46.9% Females; Mean age of injured was 39.43 years. The highest number of admissions was from Colombo (44.0%) admitted daytime between 12noon and 6pm (40.6%). Injuries were highest among Mood Affective Disorders (46.1%) and Schizophrenia (43.4%). 78.13% of injuries were caused at home, 21.88% of injuries was caused outside home. 74.5% intentional, 25.5% accidental. Among patients with Schizophrenia 76.9% injuries were intentional and 23.1% accidental. Among Mood Affective Disorders 68.42% injuries were intentional and 31.58% accidental.

Family members (56.10%) were the highest cause, self (26.83%) and non-related (17.07%). Site of injury were limbs (36.36%), face (15.15%) and head (10.10%), multiple body parts (29.9%) included head, face, trunk and limbs. No reported dental injuries. 66.67% of injuries were non-grievous injuries, 9.38% were grievous 23.96% and unable to decide upon admission. Cause included blunt weapons (39.0%), blunt weapon & restraining (26.0%), restraining (16.9%), Sharp weapons (13.0%), burns (2.6%) and bites (2.6%). Type of injury included abrasions (48.9%), contusions (14.9%), lacerations (8.5%), cut (5.3%), fractures (2.9%), burns (2.0%) and multiple types (17.1%).

Keywords: Injuries, mental health



[09]

IMPACT OF DANCE, DRAMA, YOGA AND MUSIC THERAPY WORKSHOPS ON SYMPTOM REDUCTION IN A GROUP OF PATIENTS WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA: A RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED STUDY

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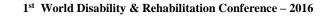
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ABSTRACT

Drama, dance, yoga and music therapy (Creative therapy) is known to promote selfconfidence, enhance interpersonal communication in patients with schizophrenia. Studies done to assess the impact of similar adjunctive treatments for symptom reduction have remained inconclusive. The aim is to measure the impact of creative therapy for reduction of positive and negative symptoms of schizophrenia as well as the effect on a patient's selfconfidence. Seventy-three patients with schizophrenia were randomly allocated to the creative therapy workshops which span over two months (test group; n=33) and to 'treatment as usual' (control group; n=40). Both groups were assessed using PANSS scores before and after the intervention. Rosenberg self-esteem scale (RSES) was administered to the subjects in the test group before and after the workshop. There was no significant difference between the two groups in PANSS scores prior to commencement of the study. Both test and control improvements groups showed significant in the positive, negative, general psychopathological and cumulative scores of the PANSS, but there was no statistically significant difference among them. When non forensic patients were analyzed separately, a statistically significant difference was observed. There was no statistically significant improvement in forensic patients. In the test group there was a significant improvement in the self-esteem score. In conclusion, exposure to dance, drama, yoga and music therapy lead to symptom reduction as well as a positive effect on self-esteem in the short term, in patients with schizophrenia.

Keywords: Schizophrenia, creative therapy, drama therapy, dance therapy, music therapy, yoga.





[10]

EFFECT OF A MUSIC AND DANCE PROGRAMME ON BALANCE AND FUNCTION IN A RESIDENTIAL GERIATRIC POPULATION

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to determine the effects of a programme of traditional African music and dance on the balance and function in the residents of a geriatric facility that services Black elderly people. All the residents of the facility who met the inclusion and exclusion criteria (40 men and women) were invited to participate. The residents who consented to participate were randomly allocated to control and experimental groups. The experimental group received the music and dance programme. An African traditional choir music and dance programme were instituted twice weekly for 12 weeks. Balance was monitored using the Berg Balance Scale and function was tested using the modified Barthel Index. Control group pretest values were significantly different from posttest values for both balance (p=0.03) and function (p=0.008), There was no significant difference between pre and posttest means for the experimental group or between posttest control and experimental group means for both variables. The variability was high. Improvement in subjective quality of life was verbalized. The study also supported the need for rehabilitation and infrastructural support to ensure that gains in function programmes must be of a longer duration.

Keywords: balance, function, geriatric, residential facility, Black



[11]

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DIFFERENCES AND LEVEL OF DISABILITY ON FRAILTY OF ELDERLY IN SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

Disability in old age is a frequent phenomenon that lowers quality of life of elderly people and demands scarce resources for care and rehabilitation. In Sri Lanka, with a rapidly increasing elderly population there is very little information relevant to the health condition of elderly in general. This includes assessment of number of diseases confronted in old age, ability to engage in daily activities, self-perceived health condition, usage of life supporting equipment and number of leisure time activities. The objective of the current study is to examine impact from certain socio-demographic variables on the extent of frailty experienced by elderly with different levels of disability using multivariate analysis. According to findings of the current study it was found out that 5.4 percent totally depend on someone in doing daily activities while 57 percent are in need of some help and only 38 percent were not in need of any support. It is found out that the extent of frailty is positively affected by level of disability and negatively affected by the self-reported health status. The study is useful in understanding the frailty related health conditions and characteristics in older adults to develop better health policy options.

Keywords: Disability level, frailty, socio-demographic variables, Leisure activities, Health status



[12]

CAUSES OF SEVERE DISABILITIES IN ELDERLY OF LOWER SOCIAL ECONOMIC GROUP IN SINGAPORE

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ABSTRACT

Singapore is one of the fastest ageing societies in the world. Interim Disability Assistance Program For the Elderly (IDAPE) is one of the government assistance schemes providing financial help to needy and disabled elderly Singaporean. It is meant for Singapore Citizens born on or before 30th September 1932. The elderly must pass a financial means testing to apply for this scheme. (Ministry of Health, Singapore, 2002). This paper serves to investigate the causes of disability in elderly in the lower social-economic group who has applied for IDAPE claims over the span of 2 years under our service in Singapore. All patients between November 2013 and October 2015 who applied for IDAPE assessment through Lotus Eldercare were included in this study. Data for main medical cause for the disability was recorded. There are 6 activities of daily living assessed, namely washing or bathing, dressing, feeding, toileting, transferring, and mobility. A total of 203 patients were included in this study. 66% of the patients are female and 34% are male. The median age is 87 years old and mean age is 88.7 years old. The top 3 causes of disabilities are Stroke, Fall with or without fracture and Infection. 31.7% of the patients are totally dependent on their Activities of Daily Living. The time from onset of disabilities to time of assessment varies greatly from a few days to 37 years.

Keywords: Severe Disabilities, IDAPE, ADLs, Singapore, Elderly, Causes of Disability, Eldercare funding



[13]

PREVALENCE OF BEHAVIORAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SYMPTOMS OF DEMENTIA AND ITS ASSOCIATION WITH THE DEGREE OF COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT IN PATIENTS WITH DEMENTIA PRESENTING TO NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH, SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

Behavioral and psychological symptoms (BPSD) are a major contributor to high levels of carer burden in dementia. Optimal management is yet to be determined. Establishing the prevalence of BPSD is important for management and setting up geriatric services. The aim is to describe the patterns of BPSD among patients admitted to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), Sri Lanka. A cross-sectional descriptive study, including every other patient diagnosed with dementia admitted to NIMH from 01/10/2013 to 01/10/2015. An interviewer administered checklist and Neuropsychiatric Inventory. Ethical clearance was obtained from the Ethic Review Committee, NIMH. Of the total 122 patients, 51.6% were females. Mean age was 71.2 years. According to severity of dementia, mild in 32.8%, moderate in 42.6% and severe in 24.6%. Mean duration following diagnosis was 2.9 years. Despite all were on pharmacological treatment, the majority (96.72%) had BPSD. Frequent symptoms were delusions (42.6%), irritability (41%), and depression (32%). Aberrant motor behavior and sleep and night time behavior disorders were significantly associated with severity of dementia, while irritability, disinhibition, agitation, hallucinations and delusions were significantly higher in moderate dementia (p<0.05). Anxiety and depression were mostly seen in mild dementia (p<0.05). In conclusions, Majority had BPSD, despite being on pharmacological treatment. This highlights the need for developing strategies for effective management. The degree of cognitive impairment and some of the symptoms of BPSD are correlated. Factor analytic approach revealed five sub- syndromes in BPSD.

Keywords: Dementia, Behavioral and Psychological symptoms of Dementia, Factor Analysis, Neuro Psychiatric Inventory.



[14]

CATEGORISATION OF CAPABILITIES AND LIMITATIONS OF PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES TO PERFORM WORK-ACTIVITIES

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ABSTRACT

People with disabilities (PWDs) account for about 15% of the world population, and they need to be provided with an opportunity for comfortable living. There are reported models to categorise PWDs, but none support to identify their capabilities and limitations. This has limited their employability with their residual capabilities depriving them of an independent life. Research suggests a multi-dimensional model to enable them to be employed. Thus, the aim of this research was to categorise people with physical disabilities (PPDs) based on their capabilities for performing work activities in industry. First, typical manual work-tasks in industry were identified from work activities prescribed in Pre-determined Motion Time Systems (PMTS). Then, Range of Motion (ROM) associated with each of the body regions were captured and refined using a walkthrough and interview approach with Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeons (n = 4) and Prothetists and Orthotists (n = 2). Body regions and joints both in the upper and lower extremities required for performing work activities in industry were identified. Finally, ROM required for performing PMTS activities were mapped by Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeons (n=4). This categorisation is expected to be used by potential employers to recruit PPDs based on their capabilities to perform work-tasks, identify training needs of PPDs and to decide on assistive devices and special facilities to help them independently carry out work activities. Further research is needed to use the categorisation in an industrial setting to evaluate its feasibility as a tool to help recruitment of PPDs.



[15]

AN INTELLIGENT HEALTHCARE PRODUCTIVITY SYSTEM FOR COMMUNITY FUNCTIONAL SCREENING – PHYSICAL FUNCTION

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Short Physical Performance Battery (SPPB) is commonly performed to predict the older persons at high risk of lower body functional limitation for referral to preventive interventions. The objective of developing i3CSF system was to deploy this intelligent Community Functional Screening system anywhere in the community. It is hypothesis that i3CSF will minimized manpower and accurately collect data for remote clinical decision making. Method: A Singapore MOE Innovation Fund grant was secured to develop the i3CFS system. The system consists of a low cost camera with depth sensor technology and pressure sensors integrated into a the i3CSF system to obtain time sensitive and kinematics data of three SPPB tests, namely 5 repeated chair stands, 3 balance stand test and a 2.44 meter walking course. Older persons fall risk was screen using the Falls Efficacy Scale -International and Time-Up-and-Go Test to differentiate fallers from non-fallers. 100 potential fallers were further screening with i3CSF and manual testing concurrently. Test performances of subjects were also captured on video tape for off-site evaluation by independent health care professionals. Results: There were statistics differences between results of the three stations of SPPB and when tested manually (p=0.000- 0.003). There were also strong to moderate correlation between the two dependent variables (r=0.572 - 0.901, p=0.000).

Keywords: falls, risk screening, camera technology



[16]

STUDY OF EPIDEMIOLOGY IN TRAUMATIC SPINAL CORD INJURY PATIENTS AT THE MAIN SPINAL REHABILITATION UNIT IN SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

Spinal cord injury (SCI) has high mortality and morbidity. Prevention is the best way to reduce the burden on health sector and society. Lack of a large scale local referral study on epidemiology of SCI is a barrier to improve methods of prevention. A descriptive (prospective) study was conducted in Rheumatology and Rehabilitation Hospital, Ragama, where randomly selected 42 patients diagnosed of traumatic spinal injuries were presented with an interviewer-administered questionnaire after consent.

Mean age of the study population was 32.74 years (SD 11.94), where 86.36% of them were males. 61.9% were married. 85.7% were occupied, out of which the majority had engaged in elementary occupations (33.34%). Only 28.6% had secondary or higher education. Most of the injuries (44.4%) were due to falls occurred during occupational activities. Other significant etiologies contributed include falls during recreational / house hold activities and road traffic accidents with 22.7% and 22.2% respectively. Interestingly 78.94% of the injuries occurred during weekdays while 47.37% of the injuries took place during routine working hours (8.00 am to 4.00 pm). The majority had thoracic spinal injuries (55.56%), while 33.2% and 11.2% had cervical and lumbosacral injuries respectively. 52.4% had severe presentation with complete ASIA (American Spinal Injury Association) level "A" injuries. The final analysis indicates that traumatic SCI are more common among young males with low level of education, who engaged in elementary occupations. Hence these populations should be mainly targeted when planning methods of SCI prevention in Sri Lanka.



[17]

COMPARING HAMSTRING FLEXIBILITY BETWEEN THE TRANSTIBIAL PROSTHETIC WEARERS AND THE CONTROL SUBJECTS AND ASSESSING FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH HAMSTRING FLEXIBILITY

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ABSTRACT

Hamstring flexibility is necessary for mobility in transtibial prosthetic wearers. The aim of this study was to compare hamstring flexibility of transtibial prosthetic wearers and nonamputees and to assess factors associated with hamstring flexibility. A descriptive comparative study was carried out with participation of 50 male transtibial amputees who were prosthetic wearers and 50 male control subjects who were non-amputees. Study population mean age was 55.66 years (SD ± 11.455) in transtibial prosthetic wearers while it was 51.28 years(SD ± 10.784) in control subjects. Data related to amputation were collected by using an interview-administered questionnaire and hamstring flexibility was assessed using the back saver sit and reach test. Statistical analysis was done by using statistical package for social sciences 16.0 version. The study revealed that, hamstring flexibility has significant relationship (p=0.001) with transtibial prosthetic wearers and control subjects. Further, the younger age (p=0.002) and participation of prosthetic rehabilitation programme (p=0.005) have significant relationship with hamstring flexibility, whereas it has no significant relationship (p>0.05) with educational level, engaging in sports activity, reason for amputation, post prosthetic period, timing of wear the prosthesis and duration of participation of prosthetic rehabilitation programme. . It can be concluded that hamstring flexibility of transtibial prosthetic wearers is lower than non-amputees. In addition to that, age below fifty and Prosthetic rehabilitation programme was associated with better hamstring flexibility among transtibial prosthetic wearers.

Keywords: hamstring, flexibility, transtibial amputee, prosthesis, age, rehabilitation



[18]

CLUB FOOT: ORTHOTIC INTERVENTION & PREVENTING LATER DISABILITIES

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ABSTRACT

Club foot, more properly called Talipesequinovarus(TEV) is one of the most significant congenital musculoskeletal abnormalities of the foot & ankle. The deformity is a combination of a varus heel, adducted forefoot, plantar flexed ankle, supination of the whole foot & sometimes internal tibial torsion. Negligence of this can eventually cause a noticeable disability & severely influence the quality life in adulthood. Therefore, the early recognition & proper orthotic intervention can help improving treatment results while reducing the risk of later disabilities. Collaborative interaction of a multidisciplinary team helps to determine the optimum solution. Ankle Foot Orthoses are the most frequently prescribed devices used to control the ankle & foot deformities during gait cycle for individuals with the club foot. Several factors should be considered when selecting the type of the AFO especially for a club foot patient. Prescribing a rigid AFO is not suitable for a fully correctable club foot as it may block the ankle motions as well as it transfers high forces to the knee. But with a jointed AFO, the force will be reduced as it allows some ankle motions. Alternatively, the Anterior Floor-Reaction AFO [1] with a jointed ankle can be designed with a sufficient mechanical lever arm to effectively control the ankle complex and to influence the knee joint indirectly if the patient has a poor knee stability. This paper is discussed on identification of particular complications of club foot & the proper involvement of orthotic intervention by Anterior FloorReaction AFO with a jointed ankle.

Keywords: club foot, orthotic intervention, AFOs, Ground Reaction jointed AFO, later disabilities, improve gait



[19]

TRANSPORT-RELATED HEALTH INEQUITIES AMONG PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES IN SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

People living with disability can experience social exclusion and reduced health-related quality of life due to inequitable transport options. This study aimed to identify travel patterns and risks of road injury among disabled people in the Moneragala district of Sri Lanka. The research was designed to inform a progressive agenda by the local council to transform Moneragala to an age- and disability-friendly community. Utilizing sampling frames of the social services department, a random household travel survey recruited 90 disabled people aged 5 years and older and 90 people aged over 60 years. An interviewer-administered questionnaire explored participants' travel patterns, perceived risks and barriers to transportation including accessing health services. The commonest modes of transportation used by disabled as well as older people were the public bus, walking and hired threewheeled vehicles. Places frequently visited by disabled people varied by age, common sites being vocational training centres, health services, special-needs-schools and community halls. Inaccessible public places were identified as a major barrier alongside poor road conditions, lack of a disability-friendly transportation system, reckless driving and negative attitudes of the public. The findings drew attention to the need to improve road conditions, provide accessible modes of transportation, reduce risky driving and nurture positive societal attitudes towards vulnerable communities disadvantaged by disabling environments. This knowledge has galvanized strategies for community engagement and road safety policy development as aspects beyond mainstream health services that require attention to enable equitable health outcomes among disabled people.

Keywords: Disabled-people, Transportation, Challenges, Sri Lanka



[20]

BARRIER FREE AND CSR

Sarah Miriam Albert

Flex

ABSTRACT

Employment of people with disabilities is still a sensitive topic in China due to the cultural and historical background. Translated into Chinese "disability" stands for "can fei" which means "the helpless" and the "useless". In 1980, the Chinese government started to get active in improving the life of people who are disabled – nevertheless by today the majority is still living a quite hidden life and remain excluded from access to society due to many barriers (facility as well as mentality wise). As result their education level normally is lower, so is their income and overall chance for an equal life. In the recent years organizations in China started to recruit employees with disabilities as part of their CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) strategy. Flex, a Fortune 500 company, and the world 2nd largest SME, started to recruit people with disabilities in China during 2015. Flex's actions taken so far have led to many lessons learned and those are getting further explained with the aim to create a "toolkit" which shall enable companies (especially in the electronic supply chain in China) to hire employees with disabilities as specially HR leaders will benefit in having a "on hand understanding" on how to set up the needed network of stakeholders, how to hire and to retain these employees as well as how to include them into the existing workforce.

Keywords: Employment, Employees with disabilities, Barriers, CSER, Social Inclusive Workplace



[21]

ISSUES RELATED TO IMPLEMENTATION, ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF DISABILITY RIGHTS IN SRI LANKA: LESSONS FROM AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT(ADA)

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ABSTRACT

Sri Lanka has a comprehensive national policy on disability (2003) aiming at promoting and protecting human rights of people with disabilities as equal citizens. However, implementation of this policy is at a preliminary level and the people with disabilities remain marginalized. Purpose of this paper is to analyze current situation of implementation of disability policy and explore challenges in integration of people with disabilities into mainstream development of the country. It also reviews the experience of implementation of Americans with Disabilities Act and examines the applicability of it into Sri Lankan context. The analysis bases on both primary and secondary sources of information. Primary data collected by adopting observations, key informant interviews with professionals and service providers, series of focus group discussions with undergraduates, members of disability rights organizations and community based organizations. ADA experience was grasped through observations, interviews, meetings and panel discussions with mainstream activists in disability moments, groups and individuals who deliver legal, counseling, mediating and other services to people with disabilities while participating 'Professionals-on-Demand programme' in USA. Findings suggest that Sri Lanka faces greater challenges ttowards moving from charity approach to rights based approach; no implementation, coordination, monitoring & evaluation mechanism to implement multi-sectoral approach towards disabilities; lack of partnerships among State, NGOs and Private Sector and lack of professional standards and ethical guidelines in disability work. ADA experience clearly shows that strengthening legal aspect in key areas of everyday life is the most appropriate strategy to mobilize society for disability inclusion where government has taken the leadership.

Keywords: disability rights; policy implementation; integration; role of government; multisectoral approach



[22]

ENSURING RIGHTS OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES (WWD) IN BANGLADESH: LAWS AND CONCERNS

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ABSTRACT

The subject of the rights of persons with disabilities is one of the least unsaid or rather one of the most overlooked issues in Bangladesh. It has remained as one of the most abandoned development agenda both by the state and non-state actors. People with disabilities are in most cases treated as subject of charity and social welfare. In Bangladesh, though approximately 15 million people suffer from various disabilities still it is hard to make people realize that disability cannot snatch rights from persons with disability rather it makes them deserving to get special treatment. A large portion of population of Bangladesh comprises of women with disabilities (WWD) living in an environment and society dominated by male. They are been discriminated against, socially marginalized and do not have access to basic social services. Moreover they are been victims of different crimes including domestic violence or rape or dowry which inflicts them severe loss and sufferings. Considering this situation, this article firstly aims to find out the status of WWD under human rights perspective considering major national and international instruments. Then it tries to review the ambit of legal protection of the women disabled persons in Bangladesh along with its failures. Lastly it recommends how the rights of WWD can fully be realized in reference to best practices followed by other progressive states.

Keywords: women with disabilities, discrimination, deprivation, rights, legal protection, amendments.



[23]

AN INVESTIGATION INTO KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES OF MAURITIAN PEOPLE WITH RESPECT TO EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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ABSTRACT

The rate of unemployment among persons with disabilities is alarmingly high compared to those without a disability in developing countries. With the increase in number of person with disabilities, the difficulty for these individuals to find a job has increased. The aim of the study was to find out about the knowledge Mauritian people have on employment of disabled people and their attitude towards employing persons with disabilities. This study is quantitative in nature. A survey-based questionnaire approach was used and administered to the respondents. An online version and a paper-based version of the questionnaire were created. A total of 200 respondents were targeted. The questionnaire was distributed by persons not related to this research. Random sampling was done and the researcher had no influence on who participated in the survey. Descriptive statistics were used to analysis collected data. 71% of the participants claim to be aware and to have a minimum knowledge on laws and statistics related to employment of persons with a disability. While 68% respondents were unsure or firmly believed that a company will have to bear considerable expenses compared to employ a person with a disability only 32% who believe that this is not the case. While some participants were knowledgeable about the laws and statistics in Mauritius and were not influenced by unfounded beliefs on employment and disability, still many others lack awareness on the topic. There seems to be a need for more education amongst lay people to change attitudes towards disabled people.

Keywords: Disability and employment, attitude, knowledge, barriers



[24]

ASIA FIRST INTEGRATED COMMUNITY FITNESS CENTRE – FOR EVERYBODY

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ABSTRACT

iFIT, the Integrated Community Fitness Centre (a gym operated by C.A.R.E.) is an initiative by for persons with disabilities (PWDs) and the elderly in the community under the Singapore Enabling Masterplan. The Masterplan 2012-2016 seeks to build on the foundation laid by earlier initiatives and adopts a life-course approach for PWDs and elderly. To further this much work are being done working to improve the work preparedness and quality of life for PWDs and the elderly.

iFIT is the first of its kind to offer an integrated fitness programme to people aged 50 years and over, people with disabilities (PWDs) and healthy adults. Exercise classes are conducted within the gym with a focus on developing muscle strength and improve general health and wellbeing. Clients receive an individual assessment and a personalised exercise programme devised by a qualified instructor.

The vision of the gym is to be an integrated facility allowing PWDs and the elderly to engage in fitness activities along with able bodied individuals and family members who share the facilities and participate in the group activities together. This programme in the heartland aims to play a large part in restoring and maintaining quality of life in Singaporeans' later years.

iFIT is leading a fresh gym experience that turns around the commercial gym concept to focus on its targetted clientele. Our state of the art facility boasts of a Studio and a full range of cardio equipment, both plate and pin loaded machines, pneumatic technology and free weights. Our vision is to provide a fitness facility that caters to the needs of individuals, regardless of age, fitness level or experience. Our aim is to treat everybody as a valuable client and to give them the personalised service that they deserve. In short – the benefits of a big gym experience, but with the friendly atmosphere of a personalised service.

The innovation of our fitness centre demonstrates the commitment to the whole population. Enriching the Singaporean life involves not only a dedication to the growth of the mind, but also to the health of the body. Like the library or "coffee shops", this is a place where every body can gather, a place that makes iFIT a home. as a whole. We do as much as we can.

Keywords: Exercise, Fitness, Health, Disability, Community Services, Aging, Employment, Technology



[25]

HEALTH SERVICES FOR DISABILITY REHABILITATION IN SRI LANKA

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ABSTRACT

State health services are being operated to provide better health care for the people with disabilities. This study was to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the current health services to improve quality health care towards disability rehabilitation. Descriptive cross sectional study conducted and data collection was done by using nominal group technique and focus group discussions Based on expert opinion and literature review questionnaire was developed to use as a guide. Availability of policy, action plan, guidelines and well developed primary care system were identified as strengths. Insufficient and unequal distribution of human resource in all categories, compartmentalized regulatory mechanism for rehabilitation services for physical, mental disabilities for adult, pediatric groups. gaps in inter and intra sector collaboration, lack of information management system and updated data on disability, inadequate public private partnership, gaps in operating team concept at all levels and lack of mechanism to address stigma were identified weaknesses. Legal actions against non-availability of accessibility facilities for the persons with disabilities, employment opportunities, resources allocations for self-employment, caregiver programmes, and community based rehabilitation and facilities for assistive devices were identified as opportunities. Inadequate health insurance and housing facilities, unavailability of sustainable were identified as threats. Identified factors need to be focused to funding mechanism achieve better services for the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

Keywords: Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats



[26]

FACTORS OF SUCCESSFUL RETURN TO WORK USING DATA FROM DISABILITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IN MALAYSIA

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ABSTRACT

Recognizing the increasing trends in employment injuries and illness, Social Security Organization (SOCSO) Malaysia introduced a disability management program known as the Return to Work (RTW) program in 2007. Since its inception, the RTW program has an average of 1,200 participants per year, with more than 8,000 workers have successfully returned to work by mid-2014 indicating its significant role in the economic empowerment amongst persons with disabilities through re-employment after rehabilitation. This paper examined the factors of successful return to work among the RTW participants from 2010 to 2013 involving 9180 participants. Logistic regression analysis was performed on the RTW outcome classified as successful or unsuccessful. Successful outcome referred to those participants who had successfully returned to work either with the same employer, different employer or as self-employed which consisted of 7180 participants. Significant factors of successful return to work include gender, employer interest, age, participant motivation, and type of injury. Male and motivated participants were more likely to return to work compared with female and unmotivated participants, respectively. Participants aged 30-39 years were more like to be successful compared with those aged 29 years or younger but not those aged 40 years or older. Participants suffering from diseases, general and multiple locations injuries were less likely to return to work compared with those having lower limbs injuries. The study also showed that willingness of the employer to re-employ injured workers and that going back to the same employer significantly influenced the successful returned to employment.

Keywords: injuries, return to work, Social Security Organization, logistic regression, employment



[27]

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH SETTING UP 'LIVELIHOODS RESOURCE CENTRES'

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ABSTRACT

Today people with disabilities are being increasingly included into business workplaces. Recognizing their abilities and accommodating them into mainstream work culture is gaining in popularity and is considered a good business strategy. With the aim of augmenting the economic participation of People with Disabilities, Leonard Cheshire Disability (LCD), a leading charity organisation supporting disabled people, is implementing its 'Access to Livelihoods' programme in six countries - India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh, the Philippines and South Africa. LCD and its strategic partner - Accenture Foundation, have established Livelihood Resource Centres (LRCs) to act as 'one-stop-shops' connecting people with disabilities with opportunities to work. The services includes identification and socio-economic assessment of disabled people; support in building life skills, providing and facilitating training, links to employers and various stakeholders, who support people with disabilities in the world of work. LRCs also act as 'knowledge centres' for people with disabilities where they can access information on health, social entitlements, education and training, employment opportunities and financial support. Leonard Cheshire Disability has also started online support for people with disabilities through Jobability.org LCD's innovative and award winning LRC model has provided skills training to over 17,000 people with disabilities. Today more than 11000 are employed or have started their own businesses.

Keywords: Disability, Livelihoods, Training, Employment, life skills, resource, empowerment, business





POSTER PRESENTATION





[01]

LIVE-IN SPECIALISED CAREGIVERS: DO WE NEED REALLY THEM IN SINGAPORE

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ABSTRACT

Many do not realise the daunting challenge that they will undertake when caring for elderly family members who wish to age-in-place, in the familiar environment of their homes. Elderly care recipients require intense levels of attention to cater to their unique needs, which inevitably adds on to your commitments. Over time, it often leads to increasing stress, anxiety and erratic levels of attention for the care recipient.

Consequently, a significant number of families have enlisted the help of foreign domestic workers (FDWs) to care for their elderly loved ones. However, it has been estimated that more than half of these workers do not possess the requisite experience and/or training to care for the elderly.

CARE seeks to provide high quality, state-of-the-art trained Caregivers at affordable rates to the elderly and their families. Our meticulously designed recruitment policy identifies the most outstanding Caregivers. It also involves a rigorous training programme to ensure that each Caregiver is well equipped with requisite skills and understands the nuances of caring for the elderly.

All of our Specialised Caregivers have been trained and assessed in our CARE Institute, located in their country of origins – namely Myanmar, Philippines and India. Our Caregivers are required to achieve high standards in their assessment, which are benchmarked against eldercare homes and community-based services in Singapore. They are competent in providing assistance in many fundamental areas of eldercare that relate to daily living such as hygiene, nutrition, ambulation and cognitive stimulation. Additionally, they possess the necessary experience and/or skills to care for persons with Dementia, Cancer, Stroke, Parkinson 's disease and other ailments that commonly afflict the elderly.

CARE Specialists are professionals who have gone through a rigorous selection and training process. What sets a CARE Specialist apart is the unique 360° CARE Model that extends beyond being a training tool. Specialists are trained by experts in the Healthcare sector, and are equipped with skills that ensures that they deliver client-centred care of the highest quality. It also creates a learning environment that shapes confident specialised caregivers with interpersonal, critical-thinking, and personal care skill

Keywords: Agingy, disabilities, caregiving, innovation





VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS

Page | 35





[01]

DEVIANT BEHAVIOR: PSYCHOLOGICAL PREVENTION AND PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERVENTION

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ABSTRACT

Purpose of the study: To carry out a retrospective analysis of the basic concepts, theoretical approaches to the prevention and correction of deviant behavior that exist in modern psychology. Methods: A retrospective analysis of the literature. Main results: It was analyzed the direction of social and psychological care for adolescents with deviant behavior, which include: prevention (warning, prevention) and intervention (overcoming, correction, rehabilitation). Conclusions: Various social institutions regulate deviant behavior of the person. Public exposure may have the character of legal sanctions, medical treatment, social support and psychological assistance. Due to the complex nature of behavioral disorders their prevention requires overcoming an organized system of social and psychological influences. Psychological prevention and intervention are seen as areas of rehabilitation, correctional and correctional-educational work with individuals who have behavioral problems, the main purpose of which is to overcome the disturbances of mental development. Implementation of effective psychological prevention and correction of deviant behavior of a person occurs only when you turn it into operation, when a person makes a personal choice, set new goals. In order to overcome the deviant behavior, people should be able to make choices, to be able to assess the consequences of the decisions to regulate emotional processes accompanying behavior, i.e., to organize their own livelihoods with generally accepted norms, which ultimately helps to reduce existing strains of personality, as well as its active socialization.

Keywords: deviant behavior, psychological prevention, psychological intervention



[02]

IDENTIFICATION OF SPEECH DEVELOPMENT RETARDATION RISK IN YOUNG CHILDREN BROUGHT UP IN A BILINGUAL FAMILY

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ABSTRACT

At present, there are more than 180 nationalities and ethnic groups living in the Russian Federation. In all republics except Russian additional languages are studied. In terms of speech therapy bilingualism is a risk factor for speech disorders, which may also impair the already existing defects in the child's speech. The aim of our study is to identify the risks of speech development retardation in young children brought up in a bilingual family. In the course of research we obtained the following results: 46% of bilingual group children have primary verbal development corresponding to the child's age, and in the monolingual group of children this figure is 66%; In 54% of bilingual group children the level of speech understanding does not correspond to the age and in the monolingual group, 79% of children the active vocabulary development corresponds to the age of children. In the monolingual group, 66% of children have the level of active vocabulary development correspond to the age.

On analyzing the literature on bilingualism problem and conducting experimental study, we concluded that the presence of two active languages in the family is a risk for the normal formation of speech in a young child.

Keywords: bilingualism, language development of children, normal speech development



[03]

SOCIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL FEATURES OF DISABLED STUDENTS' INTEGRATION IN THE INCLUSIVE GROUPS

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ABSTRACT

The aim of the research: Training in the inclusive higher school environment supposes joint training of higher school students with functional limitations, with other students in the integrated group. Social and psychological aspects of this phenomenon are studied insufficiently. In particular, the study of the acceptance degree of a student with disabilities in an inclusive group needs special attention. The indicators of sociometric status of a student with disabilities can help determine how well they are included in the team, how well they are accepted in the group. They also help assess the effectiveness of integration into the society at large. We should also note that the success of the actions of young people with disabilities will largely depend on their willingness to be active, able to initiate their own development, and act as a source and the cause of their own behavior, to overcome the negative impact of a situation of uncertainty, i.e. on the ability to self-determination.

Methods: The sociometric test for the diagnostics of emotional links between members of the inclusive group, tests, studying personal self-actualization, method of studying the training motivation in higher school.

Main results: we identified specificity of emotional interaction between the members of an inclusive group. The features of the personal potential of students with disabilities in comparison with healthy students were shown. Differences in educational motivation are presented.

Conclusions: The position of a student with disabilities in the inclusive group has sociometric status of the one "who joined" or "isolate". That is the level of unity of inclusive groups is insufficient. The level of self-actualization of students in the inclusive groups depends on various conditions within the group and on the specific health problems. At the same time students with disabilities devote a driving position to motivation of acquiring knowledge and mastering profession in the hierarchy of motives.

Keywords: inclusive education, inclusive groups, self-actualization, motivation, sociometric status



[04]

TEACHERS' PREPAREDNESS FOR ACTIVITY IN THE CONTEXT OF INCLUSIVE PRACTICES

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ABSTRACT

The arrangement of available and quality education for individuals with special educational needs is a necessary condition for such people's successful socialization in society. The development of inclusion in education is one of the priority directions of public policy in Russia nowadays. However, there are various barriers that hinder inclusive education implementation. One of such barriers is unavailability of teaching staff to work in new conditions. The authors carried out a survey of teachers to reveal difficulties they experience in the course of entering an inclusive environment. Such obstacles as teachers' insufficient competence in the sphere of psychophysiological features of individuals with special educational needs; lack of technologies aimed to train individuals with special educational needs; psychological unavailability have been revealed. Main professional difficulties that teachers meet working at all stages of training (preschool, school, and higher school) connected with emotional rejection and knowledge of peculiarities of individuals with special educational needs are described. The results of the survey testify to the fact that teachers have embraced ideas and principles of inclusive education in Russia. The obtained data prove the necessity of teachers' vocational and psychological training for an appropriate work in the conditions of inclusive education.

Keywords: inclusive education, teachers, individuals with special needs, learners with special educational needs, barriers, professional difficulties.



[05]

LATENT DEVIANCY: PROBLEMS AND PERSPECTIVES OF RESEARCH

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ABSTRACT

The relevance of the latent deviance problem is associated with the acute need to explain the psychological content of socialization disorders in pre-adolescence. Socialization is provided by a child's involvement in a variety of specific for pre-school and primary school age activities and in normo-genesis results in mastering a respective set of regulatory tools. With regard to disontogenesis behavioral deviations are studied insufficiently through the prism of deficiency of standard age related means of activity, communication and cognition. The large number of age-related problems of pre-school and primary school age in particular determines the variety of specific configurations of a child's failure in solving these problems at every stage of development. Polymorphism of the clinical disontogenesis also contributes to this variability. This situation necessitates the search for integrative structures, reflecting the emerging failure of the preschool and primary school children with disabilities, and the risks of further violations of socialization and development of deviations. The phenomenon of latent deviance, acting as a premorbid for deviations can be considered as an integrative formation. In the study of psychological content of latent deviance is of great importance the anticipatory competence study, which is considered a significant indicator of deviations in adolescents and adults. The study of anticipation in children with certain types of developmental disorders suggests its heuristic possibilities for the study of psychological mechanisms of deviations in preadolescent period.

Keywords: behavioral disorders, deviation, latent deviance, anticipation, children with disabilities, disontogenesis



[06]

TREATMENT EDUCATION OF LEXICAL AND GRAMMATICAL DISORDERS'S CONSTRUCTIONS IN PATIENTS WITH LOCAL BRAIN LESIONS

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ABSTRACT

There is a necessity to form rehabilitation and correctional programmes for dyslexic people. This research aim is to study the problem of treatment of lexical and grammatical disorders' formations in a daily care hospital treatment conditions. The speech function of patients with local brain lesions was analysed using method of dominant verbal functions' evaluation (V.M. Schklovsky, T.G. Vizel). Treatment of disorders of lexical and grammatical constructions was deducted by the specially developed model of a treatment education in group and individual sessions with the use of different methods and assumptions chosen in accordance with the condition of the speech function of patients. The data analysis of the follow up speech function assessment after treatment education has revealed the significant improvement of the level of grammatical speech construction. Results of the research aimed to investigate the effectivity of the model of treatment of lexical and grammatical constructions in patients with local brain legions in a daily care hospital treatment has shown the positive dynamics of the treatment education as a result of the developed model of treatment.

Keywords: aphasia, treatment education, expressive aggrammatism, lexical and grammatical constructions.



