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Rehabilitation of language pragmatics after childhood brain injury: Promoting theory of mind through comics and cartoons

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**Keywords:** Language pragmatics; Theory of mind; Brain injury; Children; SCED; Speech therapy

**Background:** Impairment in language pragmatics (LP) is a disabling sequelae after brain injury. Theory of mind (ToM) is required for effective communication. Evidence of effective approaches for improving LP is lacking.

**Objective:** The aim of this study was to assess the effectiveness on LP of an intervention promoting ToM.

**Methods:** Single-case experimental design (SCED) with repeated ecological measures of LP. Participant: one girl, C.S., aged 12, who had sustained severe traumatic brain injury at the age of 6, with daily life communication impairment. Outcome measures: “Lillois Test of Communication” (TLC) adapted for children, “Verbal/Paraverbal/Nonverbal” questionnaire (VPN), qualitative measures of ToM. SCED repeated measures: an ecological and personalized grid was used weekly to monitor intervention effectiveness: items assessed verbal and non verbal expression and reception behaviors and conversation-interactions during meal time and peer-group discussions. Intervention: age-appropriate and fun comics in individual weekly sessions, administered over a 5-month period aiming at developing ToM and language metacognition.

**Results:** Ecological monitoring of LP revealed statistically significant progress in LP (P < 0.05) during peer-group structured discussion, but no effect during meal-time unstructured interactions. CS showed qualitatively better ToM ability and made some progress in LP but still suffered severe impairment on VPN and TLC after intervention.

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**Discussion:** ESWT applied 4 times in 2 weeks decreased spasticity level in children without affecting the Quality of Life as other anti-spastic procedures might do.

For more reliable statistical assessment and improvement of the methodology further studies are necessary.

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The F-Words in childhood disability: A values statement for children, families and service providers

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**Keywords:** Disabled children; International Classification of Functioning; Function; Empowerment; Human rights

**Introduction:** Motivated by the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) framework, we propose a novel approach to promoting the rights of children & youth with disabilities. Our “F-words” (“Function, Family, Fitness, Friends and Fun - in the context of Future) go beyond ‘fixing’ impairments to focus on outcomes that matter to children/youth and families. A parent member of our research collaborative used the F-words and Human Rights Conventions to proposed an “F-Words Agreement” that promotes equality for children with disabilities and their families.

**Material:** The agreement is a ‘contract’ between children/youth and adults involved in their care, focusing on the values underpinning interventions - e.g. listening to Families as the important people in the child’s life, and respecting the child’s right to choose what they find Fun. The poster will (1) illustrate how the ICF; the ‘F-words’ and Human Rights Conventions led to the creation of the contract, (2) share the contract with clinicians who want to adapt and use it in their settings, and (3) stimulate exchange/discussion between the authors and meeting participants.

**Discussion:** The F-Words Agreement—available for colleagues wanting to use it—empowers parents to express their values and promotes children’s rights.

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**P359-e**

Inter-rater and intra-rater reliability of the qualitative assessment of general movements on the infants with typical development and high-risk factors for developmental delay in Taiwan

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**Keywords:** Neonatal assessments; General movements; Reliability; Kappa

**Introduction:** Some studies have proved that assessment of General Movements (GMA) is a sensitive and specific diagnostic tool, and the agreements within assessor or between assessors are good. However, the findings of several other studies were conflicting. With great interest to apply the method in our setting, we would like to assess the reliability of the GMA in Taiwan.