

# Frenchay Dysarthria Assessment in Cerebral Palsied

B. Hemalatha

Student, A.I.I.S.H, Mysore

The present study aimed at finding out the feasibility of using Frenchay Dysarthria Assessment (FDA) as an assessment tool with the cerebral palsied (Spastic and athetoid). The study also aimed at comparing

- > The performance of two different age groups (4-12 and 13-22) of spastics on FDA.
- > Performance of two different age groups (9-12 and 13-22) of athetoids on FDA.
- > Performance of spastics V/S athetoids on FDA, and
- > Performance of adult dysarthrias as against the cerebral palsied population on FDA.

The subjects selected for this study were 42 spastics ranging from 4-18 years and 9 athetoids ranging from 9-22 years.

Frenchay Dysarthria Assessment by Enderby (1980) which is used for testing adult dysrthrics was used to assess the performance of spastics and athetoids selected for this study. The performance of spastics and athetoids on the different functions listed in 8 sections of FDA was assessed perceptually using the 9 point rating scale suggested in the manual (Enderby, 1980). The 8 sections were (1) Reflex (2) Respiration (3) Lips, (4) Jaw, (5) Palate (6) Laryngeal (7) Tongue and (8) Intelligibility.

The performance of the selected subjects on the tasks (in the X-axis) of FDA was record as per the instruction in the FDA manual. The subjects responses were graded on the 9 point rating scale (in 5 section i.e., from 'a' to 'e') and the results were recorded on the score sheet used on the y-axis) in FDA. The raw scores obtained were then subjected to suitable statistical analysis. The following, summarizes the findings of the study.

1. The performance of the older age groups were better than the younger age groups of spastics and athetoids on FDA.
2. Patterns of performance by spastics and athetoids on FDA were qualitatively the same for the tasks in FDA. However, when individual scores were considered spastics performed superiorly than athetoids.
3. More similarities were seen in the pattern of performance in developmental dysarthrics and adult dysrthrics on FDA. But, developmental dysarthrics performance was poorer than the adult dysarthrics.