

# Assessment Scale For Cerebral Palsied

Rajashree. S

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

The present study was aimed at developing an assessment scale for cerebral palsied (ASCP). The test consisted of 3 major motor skills the speech, non-speech and feeding skills.

The test protocol is a compilation of 2 studies conducted on normals by Kavitha (1989) and Jyothi (1990) on speech, non-speech and feeding skills respectively. It was administered on 32 CP children in the age range 4-17 years. Out of 32, 18 were diagnosed as spastics, 7 as athetoids and 7 as mixed types of cerebral palsy.

The speech, non-speech and feeding skills consisted of subskills. Each subskill was rated subjectively by a single test with scores 3, 2, or 1. Scoring was based on the performance of the children. A score of 3 was fixed for an adult like performance and 2 for just emerging adult like responses and 1 for totally deviant response. Those sub-skills which could not be scored were described based on the quality of performance.

The children were examined in their respective classrooms in a relatively quiet environment. Appropriate statistical measures were applied to analyze the raw scores obtained by the cerebral palsy individuals. The results obtained are follows:

1. Like their normal counterparts cerebral palsied population too exhibit a developmental trend for speech, non-speech and feeding skills.
2. Performance of CP children when compared to normals for speech, non-speech and feeding skills is poor.
3. A high correlation between the 3 motor skills within each subgroup of cerebral palsy was found.
4. A comparison between the speech, non-speech and feeding skills across each of the sub-groups revealed no difference in performance.
5. Comparison between performance on deglutition for solids and liquids in the 3 sub-groups revealed no significant difference in performance.
6. Percentile ranks were computed to establish norms for different age groups.
7. A test-retest-reliability check was carried out which revealed a high intra judge reliability.
8. Qualitative analysis gave a variable picture about performance of the CP population.

The ASCP thus can be used as a diagnostic and therapeutic tool to assess the abilities of the cerebral palsied individuals in speech, non-speech and feeding motor skills.