

Receptive Vocabulary Testing in Cerebral Palsied Population

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This Study was carried out to assess the receptive vocabulary level of a group of CP individuals.

For this study, the screening Kannada picture vocabulary test (Sreedevi, 1988) was administered.

The test consisted of 30 picture cards and each card contained 4 black and white drawings. The cards were replaced by charts which suited the CP population as these could be placed on communication boards.

The responses expected of the subject were either direct pointing to the picture required to be identified or a headnod 'yes', or 'no' response or an eye blink etc.

45 CP children were administered the test. Out of this, 31 were spastics, 10 were athetoids and 4 belonged to the mixed category. The age group chosen was from 3 to 15 years. These children differed in severity of neuromuscular involvement.

The data of each group was statistically analysed. Mean and standard deviation were obtained and the percentile ranks for different age groups were calculated.

The results indicated that -

- In general,; the receptive vocabulary scores of the CP individuals improved with age.
- The performance of CP individuals in the age range of 3-4, 4-5 and 5-6 years was similar to that of the normal peers.
- The receptive vocabulary scores of the mixed group of CP was better than that of spastics, which in turn was better than that of athetoid type of CP.
- The receptive vocabulary scores of mild category of CP was better than the moderate which in turn better than the severe category of CP individuals.
- Percentile ranks for CP individuals from 3-15 years with one year interval was computed.

The present test can be used as a screening measure for assessing receptive vocabulary of CP individuals.