

STYLES OF MOTHER COMMUNICATION IN TREATMENT OF STUTTERING

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To evaluate the role of styles of mother communication in stutter and non-stutter children.

METHOD: We include 40 standard Albanian speaking mother-child pairs, including 20 children who stutter and their mothers, and 20 age and sex matched non-stuttering children and their mothers. Children who were reported having hearing, articulation, voice, language, psychological/emotional, physical or fluency (for the non-stuttering children) problems weren't included in this study.

20 stuttering children, (18 boys, 2 girls), mean age of 8:9 (range 7,2-12,4).

The 20 non-stuttering children, (18 boys 2 girls), mean age of 8:9 (range 7,0-12,1).

40 children first interacted with the experimenter then with their mother during a structured experimental condition, which took approximately 5 minutes per child-experimenter pair and 10 minutes per mother-child pair. Two sets of pictures were prepared as puzzles. A man's face was used as the first set by the experimenter to familiarize mother-child pair to the experimental condition. This picture was divided into 9 big and easy to recognize pieces.

The mother to carry on the experimental condition with her child used another set in 23 pieces.

Kappa coefficients were calculated for communication styles.

A series of two-tailed independent sample t-test were performed to compare the mothers of stutters with mothers of non-stutters, and stutters with non-stutters, commands, critical statements, no response, interruptions, verbal acknowledgments, and interaction time. The correct raw scores of all communicative styles for the overall amount of the verbal output were used for this analysis.

The results revealed that both the mothers of stutter and their children used more words than the mothers of non-stutters and their children.

No significant differences were found in any of the other communication styles that the parents used between two groups of mothers.