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# Parental Perspective: Toddlers with Clefts Using Touch Screen Technology

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# Parental Perspective: Toddlers with Clefts Using Touch Screen Technology

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**Session Number:** 8013

**Title:** Parental Perspectives: Toddlers with Clefts Using Touchscreen Technology

**Day:** Thursday, November 20, 2014: 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

**Author(s):** Cortney Vineyard, Alex Coup, Chelsey Hazelett, Rachael Janes, Brenda Louw (Session Chair/Moderator)

### Aim/Purpose:

- The purpose was to explore and determine parental perspectives on the use of touchscreen technology with toddlers who have a CLP.
  - A team approach and early intervention (EI) is considered to be best practice for infants and toddlers with CLP.
  - The introduction of touchscreen technology in EI can stimulate development.
  - Parents require support when learning how to use such devices effectively.
    - Support will guide the parents in facilitating communication interactions.

### Methods

- A quantitative descriptive research design was selected for this study.
  - A convenience sample was selected.
  - The target population for this study was parents, and/or primary caregivers of toddlers with CLP.
  - Parents of toddlers with CLP acted as participants.
  - The respondents' perspectives were determined by using a self-compiled, online questionnaire.
- The self-compiled questionnaire was posted on several websites and social media pages relating to the care, management, and support of children with CLP.
  - The questionnaire was comprised of 38 questions.
    - The questionnaire was divided into four sections including: respondent's biographical information, early intervention, technology use, and parental perspectives.
    - Participants were able to access the survey through a hyperlink.
  - The response format for the questionnaire included multiple choice, open ended, and "select all" answer formats.

### Results

- The results were interpreted using descriptive and quantitative analyses of the participants' responses and included:
  - The participants' demographics
  - Parental perspectives on the use of touchscreen technology in the EI of toddlers with CLP,
  - Current parental use of touchscreen technology with their toddlers with CLP in the home.
- Survey results indicate that 94% of the participants view the use of touchscreen technology with their toddlers positively; allowing them to play with technology for various lengths of time.

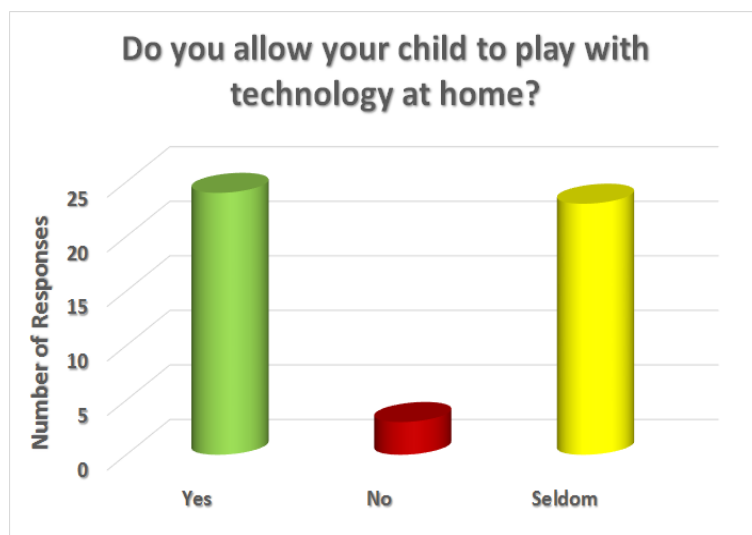
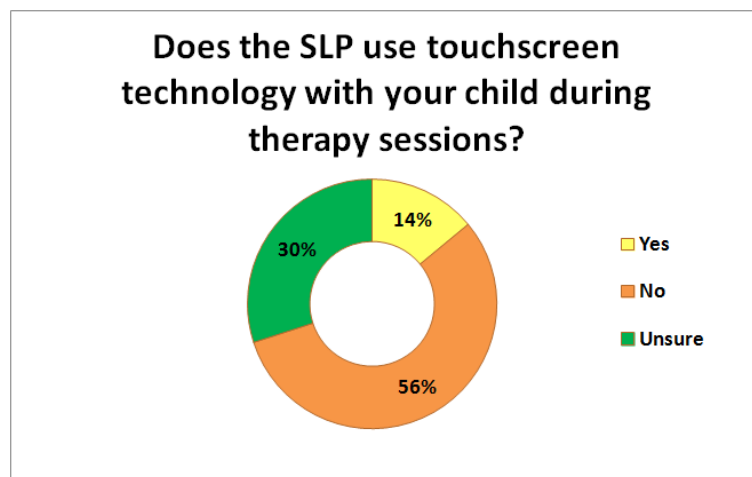
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- Parents are receptive to implementing touch screen technology in EI, however, they appear to be unsure regarding the effectiveness of touch screen devices in EI.
- Recommendations for future research include:
  - Investigating how touch screen technology may be used for shared reading activities for infants and young children with CLP.
  - Surveying SLPs regarding their use of touchscreen technology in EI with clients with CLP and to determine what their selection criteria for apps are and what guidelines are provided to families.



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