

1

1ST INTERNATIONAL
Developmental
Language Disorder
RESEARCH CONFERENCE

From EVIDENCE to IMPACT



20-22 SEPTEMBER 2021 | VIRTUAL

PRESENTING AT IDLDRC 2021

IDLDRC 2021

Awareness of DLD in Portugal

Ana Castro, Dina Caetano Alves, Daniela Cardoso & Laura Ribeiro

Presented online at the 1st International Developmental Language Disorder Research Conference (IDLDRC2021), 20-22 September, 2021 – The DLD Project.





Awareness of DLD in Portugal



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Introduction

80 to 111 children per 1000

have **Developmental Language Disorder** in Portugal

[estimated based on the most recent country population – Censos (2011)]

- In 2018, the scientific society for Speech and Language Therapy recommended the use of DLD instead of the “old” SLI and Primary Language Impairment and the term DLD was included in a glossary of clinical terms.
- There seems to be less knowledge of the condition and its impact by population in general.



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Question

What is the level of awareness of DLD in Portugal,
comparing with other conditions such as autism, dyslexia and
ADD/ADHD and speech disorders and other European countries?

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Method

European Portuguese version of **Public Survey on Awareness of Language Impairment in children**



developed by Working Group 3, led by Seyhun Topbaş and Elin Thordardottir, under COST Action ISI406 (*Enhancing children's oral language skills across Europe and beyond – a collaboration focusing on interventions for children with difficulties learning their first language*)

5 sections

Thordardottir, E., Topbaş, S., & WG3 of CA ISI406 (2021)

1. demographic information (10)
2. questions about the nature of language impairment in childhood - manifestations and causes (9)
3. questions about intervention services (5)
4. questions about the role of parents in identification and remediation (4)
5. questions about awareness of autism, dyslexia, ADD/ADHD and speech disorders (3)

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Method

European Portuguese version (online)



Questionário sobre Perturbação do Desenvolvimento da Linguagem

1. translation into European Portuguese – translation, retroversion and conciling (Ana Castro, Dina Caetano Alves, Marisa Lousada & Ana Catarina Baptista)
2. piloting for answering time and comprehension (2 respondents)
3. *Google forms* setting and piloting (Aline Camacho & 4 respondents)

The study has the **ethical approval** of :

- Comissão Especializada de Ética em Investigação (CEEI) da Escola Superior de Saúde do Instituto Politécnico de Setúbal (ESS/IPS), **Portugal**
- Institutional Review Board of the Faculty of Medicine of McGill University, **Canada**

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Method

Sample 90 respondents

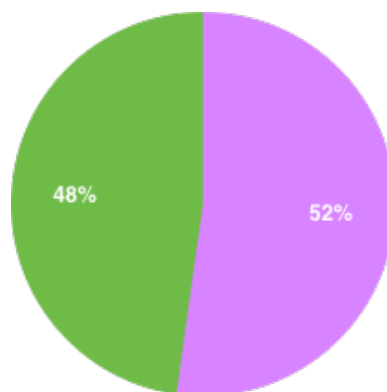


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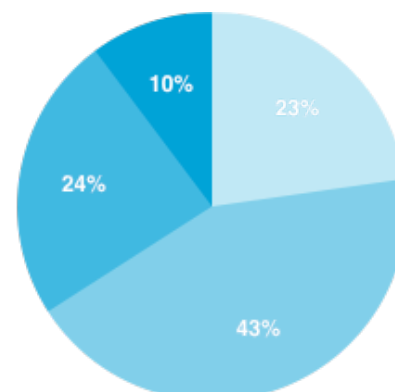
18-29 yo 30-39 yo
40-49 yo 50-59 yo
60-69 yo > 70 yo

gender



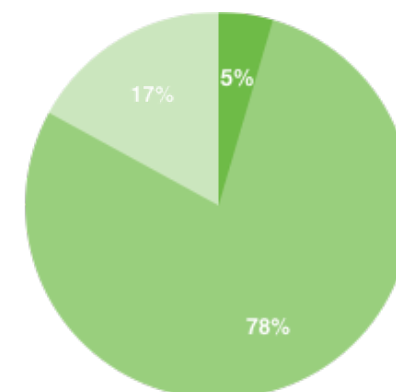
feminine
masculine

level of education



primary school secondary school
bachelor or licenciatura master or PhD

socio-economic status



high medium low

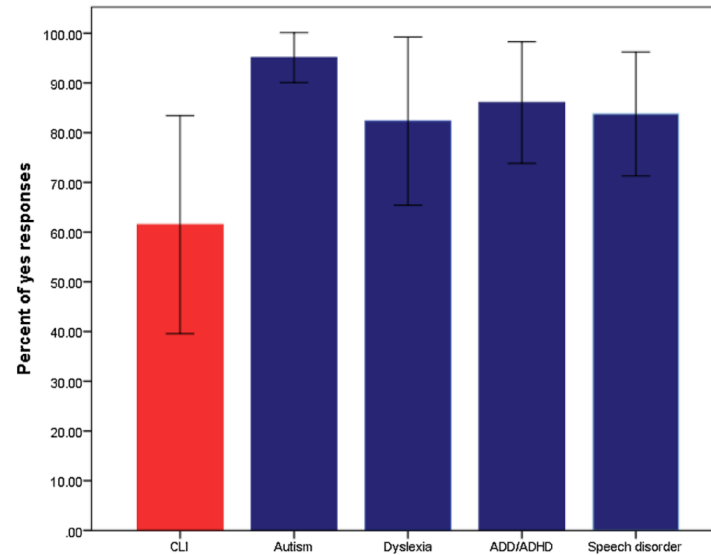
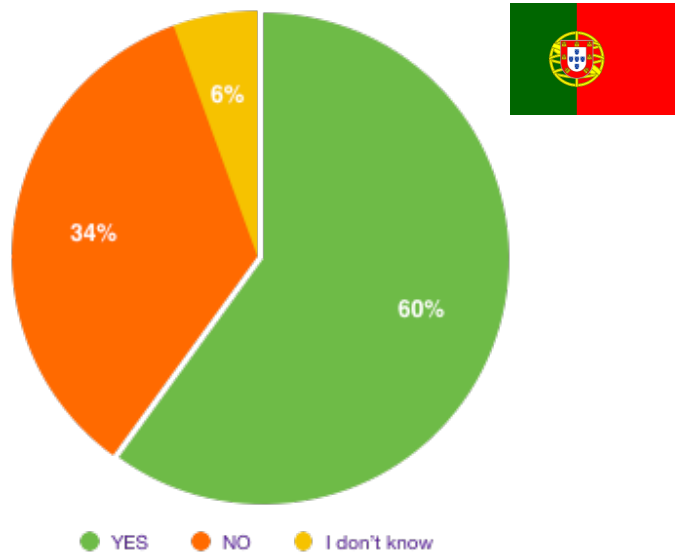
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Results and discussion

Knowledge of DLD

Have you heard about DLD?



mean responses across all countries that have heard about
Child Language Impairment
Autism
Dyslexia, ADD/ADHD
Speech disorders

Thordardottir, E., Topbaş, S., & WG3 of CA ISI406 (2021)

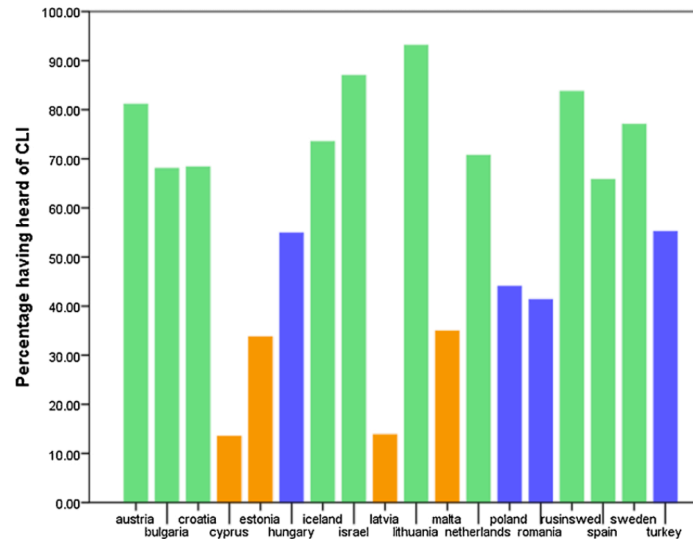
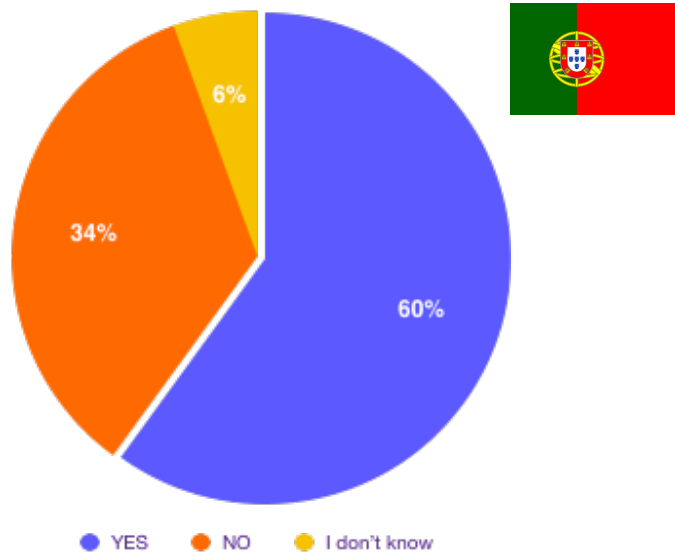
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Results and discussion

Knowledge of DLD

Have you heard about DLD?



responses across all countries that have heard about Child Language Impairment level of awareness

low
medium
high

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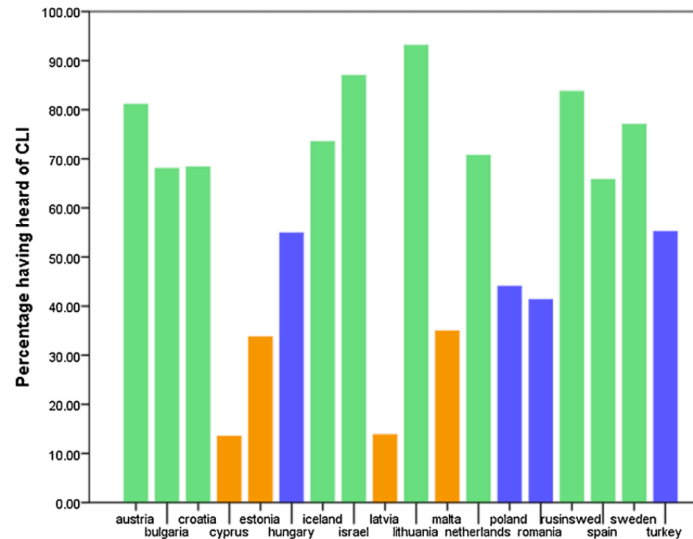
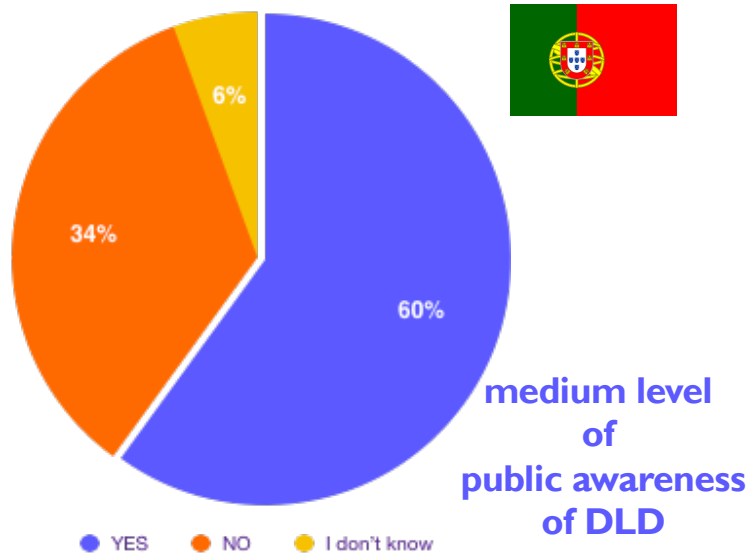
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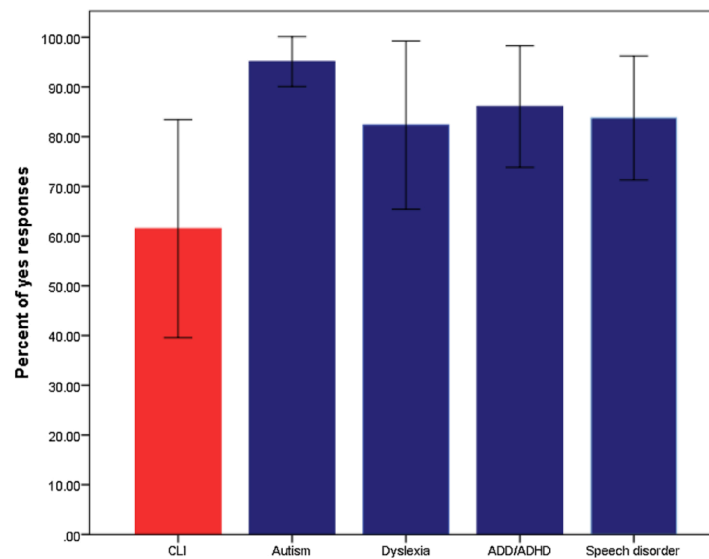
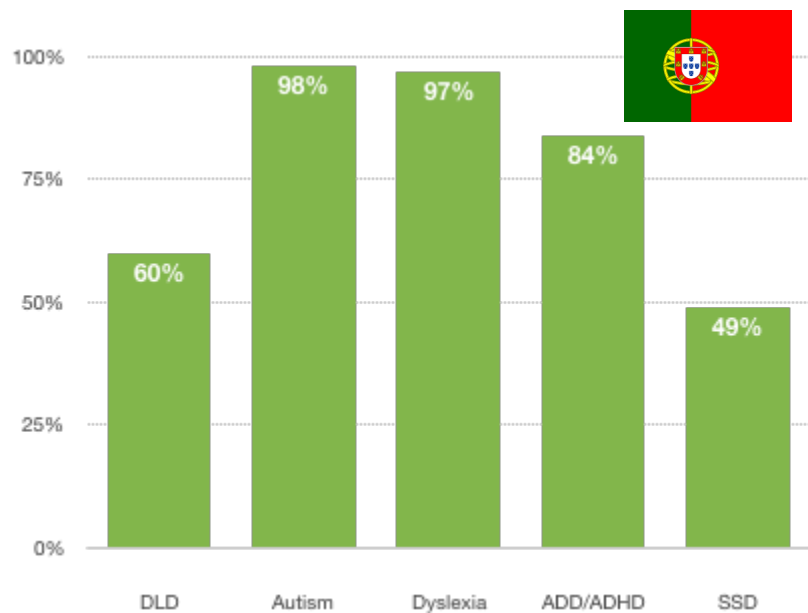
Thordardottir, E., Topbaş, S., & WG3 of CA ISI406 (2021)

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Results and discussion

Knowledge of DLD versus Autism, Dyslexia, ADD/ADHD Speech disorders



mean responses across all countries that have heard about
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Autism
Dyslexia, ADD/ADHD
Speech disorders

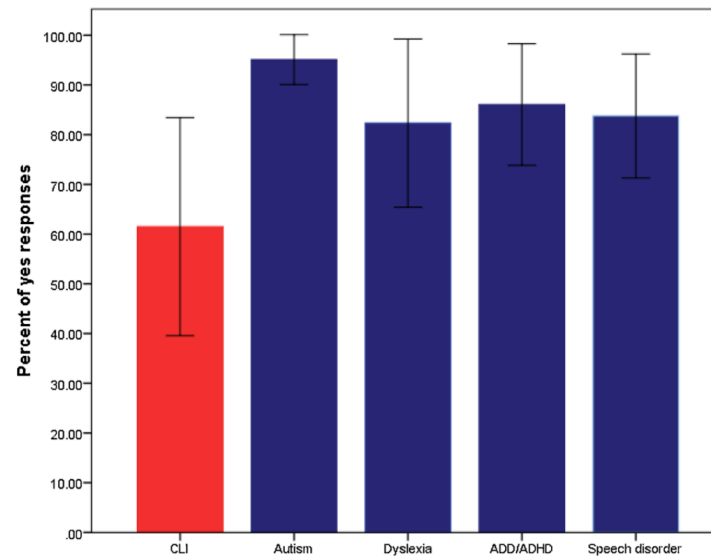
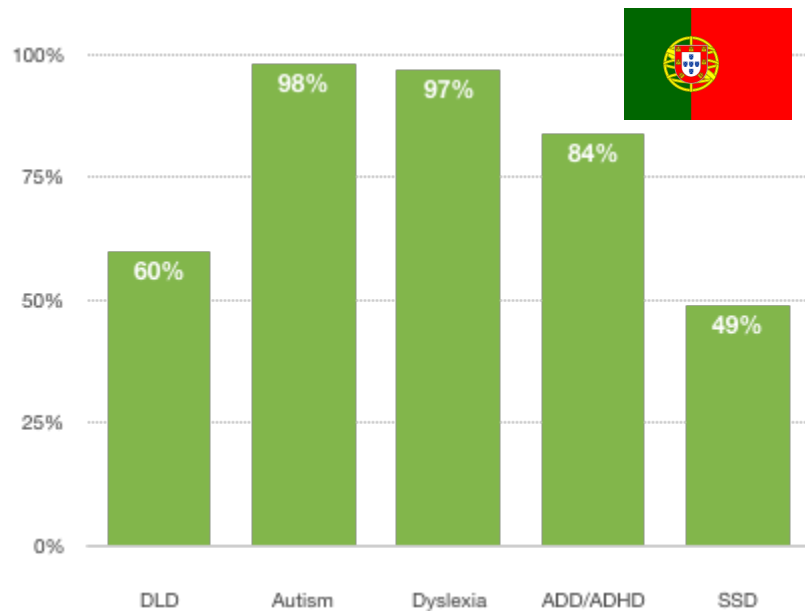
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Results and discussion

- variation in the knowledge about **practitioners, causes and treatments involved in DLD**
- **Awareness campaigns, diffusion of information through schools and education settings, and Internet websites** are identified as the preferable means to raise the knowledge about DLD.

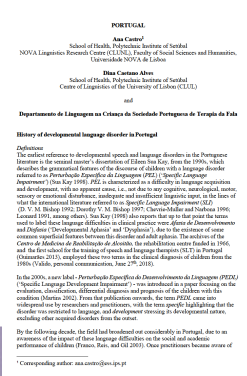
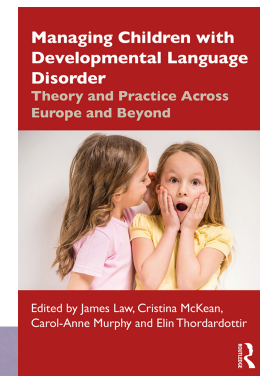
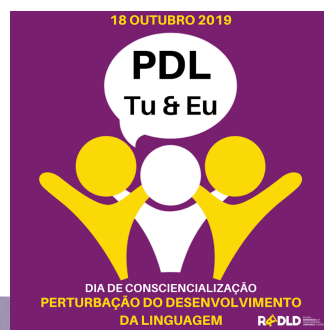
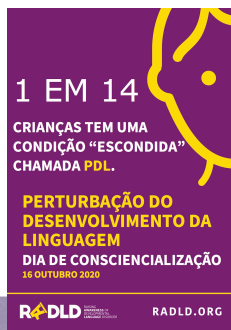
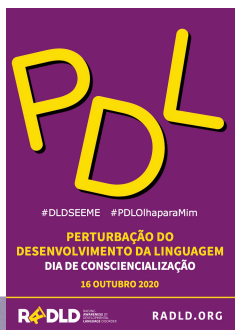
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Conclusions

- Portugal is a country with a medium level of awareness of DLD with not very specific knowledge about **practitioners, causes and treatments**
- **DLD awareness campaigns and diffusion of information**

Castro, A., Alves, D. C., & Departamento de Linguagem na Criança da Sociedade Portuguesa de Terapia da Fala. (2019)



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References

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- Castro, A., Alves, D. C., & Departamento de Linguagem na Criança da Sociedade Portuguesa de Terapia da Fala. (2019). Country Vignette: Portugal. In J. Law, C. McKean, C.-A. Murphy, & E. Thordardottir (Eds.), *Managing Children with Developmental Language Disorder: Theory and Practice Across Europe and Beyond*. Routledge.

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