

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Title: Phonological characteristics of children with Speech Sound Disorders - A comparative study between speakers of European and Brazilian Portuguese

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Abstract

Introduction: Speech Sound Disorder (SSD) affects 10 to 15% of preschoolers and about 6% of school-age children¹. The objective of this study is to describe and compare the phonological characteristics of European Portuguese (EP) and Brazilian Portuguese (BP) preschool and school age children with the diagnosis of SSD. **Method:** 26 children diagnosed with SSD, 13 children European Portuguese speaking Group (EPG) and 13 of Brazilian Portuguese speaking Group (BPG) participated in the study. For the EPG, the speech samples were collected using the *Subteste Fonético e Fonológico of Teste Fonético e Fonológico - Avaliação da Linguagem Pre-Escolar*², and the BPG by *Prova de Nomeação de Fonologia of Teste de Linguagem Infantil ABFW*³. Each sample speech was transcribed by three speech language therapists and its integration in the study was subject to a minimum of 80% agreement among examiners. Different phonological measures were considered: percentage of correct consonants (PCC), percentage of correct consonants - revised (PCC-R), process density index, relative index and absolute index of omission, substitution and distortion and phonological processes. BPG children were paired with the EPG according to sex, age and value of PCC-R. **Results:** Differences between the children of EPG and BPG were found on the following measures: weak syllable deletion phonological process was more frequent in EPG ($p = 0.00$); for the absolute and relative indexes (error type), there was a higher number of omissions in the EPG ($p = 0.003$) and a higher number of substitutions in the BPG ($p = 0.004$). Intragroup analysis showed differences in both groups in the occurrence of phonological processes ($p \leq 0.00$), although the most occurring was liquid gliding, reduction of consonant cluster and devoicing in both groups; for the absolute and relative index, the EPG presented differences in omission ($p = 0.003$), and the BPG in substitution ($p = 0.002$). Results suggest differences between EPG and BPG in phonological processes occurrence and suggest a relation of the most frequent type of error. These findings may occur due to variation of phonetic-phonologic characteristics between EP and BP in the two phonological tests. Moreover, in some of the EP test stimuli it is frequently observed the occurrence of weak syllable deletion phonological process, as well as sound omissions. **Conclusion:** Linguistic variations do not influence directly the measures studied, which characterize SSD. Therefore, EP and BP children with SSD demonstrate similar characteristics as to the types of errors and types of phonological processes. This aspect is a facilitator for using analysis of speech as well as for the implementation of intervention strategies, allowing higher exchange between SLT of the two Portuguese speaking countries (Portugal and Brazil).

Learning

Outcome 1 Participants should be able to evaluate the need of intervention in SSD children speaking European or Brazilian Portuguese.

Learning

Outcome 2 Participants should be able to interpret phonological tests to identify SSD in Portuguese speaking children.

Permission Yes

Approval Confirm

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Any questions? Please email us at: abstracts@ialpdublin2016.org