The effectiveness of social skills training program to mothers on improving social interact of cochlear implanted children

Kourosh Amrai a *, Saeid hassanzadeh, b

a M.A , University of Tehran, Iran
b Ph. D , University of Tehran, Iran

Abstract

The main purpose of this study was to explore the effectiveness of social skills training program to mothers on improving social interact of cochlear implant children. In this experimental study, 8 mothers voluntarily participated in the study. First social skills rating scale (SSRS) Gresham & Elliott (1999) was utilized as pre-test and after training social skills related to children to mothers for 10 sessions SSRS was performed again as post-test and finally data was analyzed by means paired T-Test. Results show there is a significant difference between pre-test and post-test in social skills domain (t= -9/35, p<0/01) and behavioural problems (t= 4/26, p<0/01). The results were discussed in terms of the literature.

Keywords: social skills, deaf, mothers, cochlear implant;

1. Introduction

Researches in psychological and social developmental domain of deaf children show that they have different developmental characteristics compared to their hearing peers (Asher & Taylor, 2001). The congenitally deaf persons and those who go deaf people before the age of 3 lose the crucial factor in interaction with the world which is the deciding factor in the acquisition of oral language (Oullet,Normand & Cohen, 2001). The deaf child is at risk the loneliness living and the lost of social discussion coequals partnership (Marschark., Clark, 1993; quoted By Catrin., ford, 2006).

Consequently, it causes the deaf people inter personal relationship crisis (Catrin., ford, 2006). Aplin (1993) the evidences show that the deaf children reveal the expanded social fault relationship development in the first development years. The studies show that the abnormal social behaviour appearance in first year’s life is unchanged during life span (Werba, Eyberg, Boggs, Algina, 2006). The individual and group research on the deaf children shows that the cochlear implants is effective on linguistic skills much positively (Dawson, Blamey, Dettman, Rowland, Barker, Tobey, Busby, Cowan & Clark 1995; Hassanzadeh, Farhadi, Daneshi, Emamjomeh, 2002; Boothroyd & Boothroyd ,2002; Geers, 2002).
The effective factors on the cochlear implants are the family characteristic and support (the maternal). Different studies support parental training as an effective method to decrease the behavioural problems of deaf children (Barlow, Brown, 2000; Lundahl, Risser & Lovejoy, 2006). The parents training is the most effective attitudes in the childhood behavioural problems treatment (Eyberg, 1992; bagner & Eyberg, 2007). So the present study wants to consider maternal effects training on enhance social skills of cochlear implant child.

2. Method & materials

3. 2.1. Participant: The 8 volunteered mothers from the cochlear implant centre filled initially social skill rating scale(SSRS) Gresham and Elliot (1999) as pre-test, and After 10 sessions children social skill training they completed SSRS test as pre-test again.

2.2. The social skill rating scale (SSRS): The parental form consists of 55 questions, the two social skills and social behavioral problems parts. The Cronbach Alpha is % 74 to %95. In Iranian form, test & re-test reliability is 0/81 (Shahim, 2002). The data analyzing was done by the relative t- test.

4. Results

Findings results are acquired by the pair t-test and the summary of the results are presented in Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Pre-test</th>
<th>Post-test</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>df</th>
<th>Sig</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social skill</td>
<td>M 78/42, SD 9/30</td>
<td>M 98/71, SD 7/56</td>
<td>-9/35</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>P&gt;0/01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioural problems</td>
<td>M 33/42, SD 7/50</td>
<td>M 24, SD 4/16</td>
<td>9/26</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>P&gt;0/01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the table1 shows, there is significant difference between a pre-test and after test in the social skills and behavioural problems which indicate the effective maternal training on enhance of the deaf children skills.

5. Discussion and conclusion

The results of the this study show effectiveness of mothers training on improvement of social skills of cochlear implant children which is consistent with research findings of Kamps, Tankersley & Ellis (2000) Fraser et al. (2005); Hennessy (2008); Boo & Prins (2007) & Grimes(2008). In explaining the results it could be referenced to the behaviouristic theory on the basis of classical conditioning and operant conditioning and Bandora's social learning theory according to which the control and learning of behaviours as the result of the interaction between personal factors are the environmental events and personal factors. The parents could amplify appropriate social skills and be ideal examples to be emulated. Therefore, it is crucial to pay attention to the role of family and that of mother in particular in teaching social skills to children for accelerating the growth and preventing more critical problems. One of the limitations of this study is adopting single group pre-test, post-test design which cannot control all the sources endangering the internal validity.

References


