Communication skills (TLC, PTECCA) and quality of life (C10) improved significantly. However the burden of care score (Zarit) was not modified, thus confirming a preceding observation [3].

Discussion.– Therapeutic patient education to improve communication skills for the aphasic and his family carers enables them to better apprehend the concept of communication, to find solutions to decrease the handicap of communication and to acquire self-care skills and psychosocial skills [4].

References

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CO41-004-e
An ecosystemic assessment of the aphasic person communication with his spouse: The PTECCA
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Keywords: Aphasia; Communication; Ecosystemic approach; Functional assessment; Conversational analysis; Communicational handicap; Readaptation

Communication abilities disorders caused by aphasia penalize the subject in his quality of life. To take efficiently into account this handicap, the speech therapist has to associate to the re-education work made with the patient a valuation and an adaptation of this environment according to his remaining communication abilities. This approach, usually called “ecosystemic”, offers to involve the aphasic person close circle in the valuation and the speech therapy consideration, in order to train the main communication partners of the patient to an efficient communication, adapted to language diseases. According to the lack of assessment formalized to this activity field, we have kept trying to create an ecosystemic assessment of the aphasic person communication with his spouse: the PTECCA. This article generally presents this protocol focusing on the valuation originality which is proposed.

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The workshop of communication C.COM in disclosure alterations of severe vascular aphasia
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Keywords: Severe aphasia; Workbook communication; Augmentative communication; Functional rehabilitation

In France, the communication workbook C.COM, associated with a specific procedure for the construction, use, and guidance of partner and caregiver, has been used since 2004. The PHRC APHACOM opened in 2008 designed to assess the gain in the repair of communication in severe aphasia. This is a prospective comparative study, randomized, multicenter, superiority, a student study group for 3 months using the workbook C.COM compared to a control group not using it, but receiving the same amount of speech therapy using such non-imaged media of communication. Communication is studied on a test of pragmatic communication (test of the six tasks) with six arbitrary instructions, graded according to two levels of difficulty, with a double-blind videotape evaluation. Secondly, the study examines what patient and partner think about the effectiveness of the C.COM, its effective use every day, the scores on tests assessing associated verbal communication, functional communication, the analytical capabilities of language, the depressive state. Twenty-nine recent stroke patients with severe expressive aphasia from 43 to 91 years, without visual gnosis disorder, were included in six participating centers of the great Southwest. The two groups did not differ at baseline in terms of severity of aphasia, related disorders, and pragmatic assessment of the communication. Our results show an increase in both groups with no significant
difference in treatment outcome to j90. However, the treated group communication book is changing faster. Each shows a significant improvement in communication through the use of the C.COM, the communication test with the six tasks being managed by it in 85% of all patients at the end of follow-up period compared to 31% inclusion. Our results show the impact of the C.COM in pragmatic communication, but do not demonstrate the interest of a patient specific training, probably for lack of power related to the reduced number of patients and the effect of spontaneous important recovery in this group of people with aphasia.

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Communication disabilities after right hemispheric stroke: Impact of a pluridisciplinary group rehabilitation based on an acting course
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Keywords: Right-hemisphere-damaged persons; Pragmatic; Dramatic art; Communication; Quality of life
We are studying the interest of dramatic art techniques in the rehabilitation of pragmatic disorders associated with right hemisphere damage. Indeed, right-hemisphere-damaged persons may present communicative disorders that we consider with a pragmatic perspective. These deficits may affect conversational interactions in everyday life, so right-hemisphere-damaged persons may suffer from a communicative handicap. Thus, the everyday life context and quality of life must be considered in assessment and rehabilitation. Indeed, beyond improvement of disorders, treatment must be oriented toward satisfaction in communication, enabling maintained social links and social reintegration. In speech therapy, recommendations about treatment for this population mention the relevance of the group context and role-playing activities to test communication exchanges similar to everyday life.

Problematic/Hypothesis.– What is the relevance of a multidisciplinary rehabilitation group using dramatic art techniques (named in French “GRP communication”) in the treatment of pragmatic deficits of right-hemisphere-damaged patients? First hypothesis: GRP communication improves pragmatic skills of right-hemisphere-damaged patients in comprehension and expression. Second hypothesis: GRP communication improves quality of life of right-hemisphere-damaged patients.

Method.– A GRP communication workshop was conducted. Patients participating in the study were assessed before and after rehabilitation in order to ascertain changes in pragmatic performances in situations of evaluation and in communication in everyday life. Evaluation of the impact of pragmatic impairments in everyday life required the creation of a questionnaire, called COMSO (COMmunication and SOcial relations). Quality of life was also assessed.

Results/Discussion.– Our research has revealed improvement of pragmatic skills and of quality of life, mainly in the social domain. Without control subjects, we have come to an assumption of effectiveness of GRP communication.

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The social networks questionnaire: Clinical case
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Keywords: Alternative communication; “Social Networks” questionnaire; Serious disorders with speech production; Speech About people presenting serious disorders with speech production, communication troubles are common. The speech therapist assessment evaluates the language skills and the functionality of the current communication. The « Social networks » questionnaire (Sarah Blackstone et Mary Hunt Berg) is a tool for assessing functional communication which enables to broaden traditional assessments and to plan the interventions in the field of the communication.

A modification of the initial version of the « Social Networks » questionnaire has been considered as part of a speech therapist dissertation (Céline Béra, Audrey Odiou-Lamiset). The goal was to make this tool more useful as an additional assessment. It is divided in two questionnaires: one addressed to the family, and the other to the professionals. A summary card using graphics was also created to enable a better visualization of information. The young W is suffering from a cerebral palsy with a serious orofacial motor affection. The new version of the questionnaire was used in his assessment, to guide interventions to develop communication skills in the long term and involve the family in identifying communication objectives. It was thus possible to observe a variation in the dynamics of interactions depending on the situation of communication and people, which evolve during the life of the individual. This questionnaire enabled to list such as communication skills and the several expression resources employed by the child with their effectiveness. It also enables to list the several kinds of communication partners in five circles.

To conclude, we could notice the importance of both the diversity of contacts and communication situations and also the appetite, and linguistic and psycho-emotional level of the person, for the success of an alternative communication project; a multidisciplinary reflection is essential. The questionnaire helps develop lines of work:
− work around psycho-emotional independence;
− development of a therapeutic project of setting up an alternative communication adjusted to the needs of the patient and his circle.

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