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Think, Treat & Teach

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Speech Diagnostics

Vietnamese cleft speech characteristics and parent counselling postnatally

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Aims & Objectives:

To investigate: • cleft speech characteristic in Vietnamese speaking children with repaired cleft lip and palate (CLP) attending hospital clinics in Vietnam. • information currently given to families of infants diagnosed at birth with CLP in the hospital setting.

Material & Methods:

The production of Vietnamese consonant sounds produced at a single word level during a naming task was assessed in 23 children (aged 15 months to 15 years) with repaired CLP. The data was phonetically transcribed online and analysed. A semi-structured interview was also conducted with 31 parents of children with CLP (aged 12 months to 15 years) and responses recorded online.

Results:

The limited speech sample at single word level suggests the frequent production of the nasal palatal /r/ which is often the realisation for alveolar, post alveolar and velar plosives and fricatives and a palatal plosive. Glottal /h/ and initial consonant omission were also dominant features. Of the 31 parents interviewed, 83% received some information about time and place of surgery and 19% were advised about feeding.

Discussion & Summary:

Cleft speech data for Vietnamese has so far not been investigated. However, some rudimentary knowledge of Vietnamese sounds affected by CLP has been ascertained which, with further research, may guide a phonological approach to intervention. Results from parent interviews indicate that they are given insufficient information about surgical management and feeding and no information about speech, dental or hearing difficulties. Healthcare professionals need education about CLP management so parents receive accurate information and advice to ensure the child reaches their full potential.

Speech Profile Of Patients Submitted To Primary Palatoplasty in A Brazilian School Hospital

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Aims & Objectives:

to describe the speech profile of patients submitted to primary palatoplasty in large Brazilian school hospital

Material & Methods:

participants were 97 patients assigned to the Speech-language Pathology Division, who had been submitted to primary palatoplasty and had no prior history of speech-language intervention. Patients were divided in two groups: Early intervention group (EIG) – 43 patients submitted to primary palatoplasty before 2 years of age; Late intervention group (LIG) – 54 patients submitted to primary palatoplasty after 2 years of age. All patients underwent speech-language assessment within the minimal time frame of 3 months after surgery. The data obtained were submitted to statistical analyses (p<0.05)

Results:

mean age of the patients regarding the procedure of palatoplasty was: EIG 1.7 years; LIG 11.5 years (p

Discussion & Summary:

patients in LIT presented poorer performance in the speech assessment. Developing countries, as confirmed by the literature, have less access to information and fewer reference centers for patients with cleft palate