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Profiling Communication Characteristics of Individuals with Acquired Neuro-communication Disorder in a Tertiary Care Setup

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Abstract

Introduction: Acquired neuro-communication disorders are the most commonly observed consequences of the neurological disorder. Profiling communication characteristics is a sensitive indicator in tertiary care setup that helps to plan an individualized management strategy to improve the quality of life in an individual with a neuro-communication disorder.

Objective: The aim and objectives of the current study were developing and validating a Comprehensive Level based Framework for the Neuro-communication disorder (CLFN) followed by profiling communication characteristics of individuals with acquired neuro-communication disorders in a tertiary care setup administering that.

Methods: The study followed a cross-sectional design and used a convenient sampling process for sample collection. A total number of seventy-six participants recruited for the study based on selection criteria. Phase 1 involved developing and validating the CLFN and phase 2 involved profiling the communication characteristics by administering the CLFN followed by statistical analysis of the collected data in phase 3.

Results: It was seen that a greater proportion of participants were from the middle aged adult group than in the older aged adult group and males having higher frequency occurrence of neuro-communication disorder than females. Cortical pathology was found as major underlying pathology. Among impairment, dysarthria found to have high occurrence; and also noted a high occurrence of co-morbidities in dysarthria with dysphagia.

Conclusion: The Comprehensive Level based Framework for Neuro-communication disorders can serve as a reference for holistic assessment of individuals with neuro-communication disorders in a tertiary care setup. This will monitor the progress evaluation and plan the intervention program before the manifestation of any significant neurogenic impairment, which would improvise the quality of life of individuals.

Key Words: Communication characteristics -- Acquired neurological disorder -- Profiling – Domain and levels – Cortical pathology – Dysarthria – Dysphagia -- Aphasia