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"Perspectives of Indian Speech Language Pathologists on Adolescent Language Assessment"

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Title of the article: Perspectives of Indian Speech Language Pathologists on Adolescent Language Assessment

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Abstract

Purpose: Perspective-based studies have been carried out on health professionals to create clinical implications that will positively impact the healthcare system. There exist no such studies that explore the perspectives of Indian SLPs towards handling adolescents with language impairments. Therefore, the current study aims to explore the perspectives of Indian SLPs towards the assessment of adolescent language.

Methods: The study followed a cross-sectional study design following a non-random convenient sampling procedure. A total number of 102 SLPs participated in the study. Phase 1 comprised of developing a questionnaire to identify the perspectives of SLPs towards the assessment of adolescents with language impairments. A total of 10 questions were formulated for the same. Phase 2 included the data collection which was conducted through an online survey. Phase 3 focused on the data analysis. Descriptive statistics was done to determine the mean and SD for continuous variables, and frequency and percentage for discrete variables.

Results: The findings of the current study are discussed question-wise. Significant disparities in the perspectives of SLPs towards adolescent language assessment were noted. The responses indicated an overall level of poor awareness and a superficial understanding of the core area (about adolescence, and the areas and tools for assessment). The results are discussed pertaining to each question.

Conclusions: Understanding the perspectives of SLPs towards adolescent language assessment are critical in paving the way for future clinical development and research.

Keywords: adolescence, assessment, perspective, language.