

Target Area: Behaviour Problems

<p>O'Reilly, O'Kane, Byrne & Lancioni (1996). <i>Increasing the Predictability of Therapeutic Interactions for a Client with Acquired Brain Injury: An Analysis of the Effect on Verbal Abuse</i>. The Irish Journal of Psychology 17(3): 258-268</p>	<p>RoBiNT score - <i>to be confirmed</i></p>
<p>Method/Results</p>	<p>Rehabilitation Program</p>
<p>Design:</p> <p>Y Study type: SSD. Multiple baseline across settings (1=physiotherapy; 2=occupational therapy).</p> <p>Y Participant: A female, age 36 years, with a moderate to severe brain injury following a brain haemorrhage. She suffered short term memory loss, distractibility, and showed marked confabulation and perseveration in her speech. Therapy was conducted in a post-acute rehabilitation facility.</p> <p>Y Setting: Post-acute rehabilitation facility.</p> <p>Target behaviour measure/s:</p> <p>Y Frequency of patient's verbal abuse, and frequency of appropriate explanatory statements made by the therapists.</p> <p>Primary outcome measure/s:</p> <p>Y No additional measures.</p> <p>Result: Immediate and consistent decreases in verbal abuse occurred once the intervention was implemented in physiotherapy sessions (from 83.3%–96.6% to 36% of intervals). Reductions from baseline also occurred when introduced into occupational therapy sessions (from 96.6% to 13%). No statistical analysis was conducted. Therapists reported that the intervention provided increased manageability of the participant and did not interfere with the actual goals of the therapy sessions.</p>	<p>Aim: To reduce verbal abuse during therapy by increasing the predictability of therapeutic interventions (and decreasing potential confusion by the patient).</p> <p>Materials: No specific materials required.</p> <p>Treatment plan:</p> <p>Y Duration: 3 weeks: Baseline observations for 5 days (9am to 5pm); intervention occurs as part of OT and PT session 5 days / week for 2 weeks.</p> <p>Y Procedure: 5 days/ week during physiotherapy and occupational therapy sessions). Length of sessions is not stipulated, but appears to be a part of the regular session length.</p> <p>Y Content: During each therapy session, each single interaction is explained, as if it were a novel situation to maximize the participant's awareness. The therapist explains the nature of a given interaction or gains approval from the participant regarding the interaction that is about to begin. These explanations are given in a slow calm voice e.g. "I'm going to help you put your hand splint on now."/ "Is that ok?"</p>