

Cognitive Rehabilitation through Speech-Language Pathology: Enhancing Daily Functioning and Independence

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Introduction

Speech-language pathology (SLP) can play a crucial role in improving the quality of life for individuals with communication, swallowing, and cognitive difficulties. Through various interventions, SLPs can help individuals with speech and language disorders to communicate more effectively, which can enhance their social interactions and relationships. SLPs can also help individuals with swallowing difficulties to eat and drink safely, which can improve their overall health and well-being. In addition, SLPs can work with individuals who have cognitive impairments to improve their memory, attention, and problem-solving skills, which can enhance their ability to engage in daily activities and maintain their independence. Overall, SLP services can have a significant positive impact on the quality of life of individuals with communication, swallowing, and cognitive difficulties.

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clinical thinking and reducing needless variance in the practises mentioned in this study [12-15].

Limitations

This study does have some drawbacks. The survey was only available to those who could read and write English since other languages could not be translated into it in time. SLPs who are interested in the subject are more likely to reply, and replies might not accurately represent all SLP opinions, as is the case with any survey methods. Furthermore, it was impossible to estimate the survey's response rate because:

- Since the survey was promoted on SLP social media sites using snowball sampling, it was impossible to know how many SLPs actually clicked on the survey link.
- It was impossible to collect data on the number of SLP members in the various professional organisations and SIGs contacted.
- There are no statistics on the number of SLPs employed in CC contexts in the United States or elsewhere in the world.
- It should be noted that replies are respondents' professional judgements and do not represent clinical best practises.

Additionally, the study team combined data from all nations outside of Ireland as one since there weren't enough respondents from each country to examine disparities between individual nations. Therefore, care must be exercised to avoid overgeneralizing the findings. Given that a small, heterogeneous group of people were included in the survey and that responses may differ from setting to setting rather than nation to country, this is especially pertinent for the inferential statistics. It is necessary to take into account this respondent bias constraint.

Conclusion

In conclusion, this study highlights the need for quality improvement efforts to support the delivery of speech-language pathology in critical care services. The findings reveal the lack of funding for dedicated CC SLP staffing and the poor integration of SLPs into CC teams worldwide. The study also emphasizes the need for ongoing evaluation of service delivery and quality, the development of SLP CC competence frameworks, and more research to demonstrate the value of SLP engagement in CC rehabilitation. These clinical implications call for a cultural shift to foster collaborative management across disciplines, improved training opportunities, and consistent referral criteria and methods. By addressing these barriers, services can enhance clinical outcomes and improve patients' quality of life.

References

- 1.