

ABSTRACT

SELF-EFFICACY IN RELATION TO COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTIONING OF PATIENTS WITH APHASIA. ROLE OF PERSONAL COMMUNICATION PASSPORT IN THE PROCESS OF SPEECH THERAPY

This dissertation is the result of a search for the possibility of creating a model of a holistic, multi-faceted and the most effective neurological therapy of patients with aphasia, taking into account the real needs of adults with language communication disorders of cerebral etiology. The author aims to show the importance of self-efficacy in the context of the therapeutic treatment of patients with aphatic disorders and to present the potential benefits of using the proprietary tool for therapy – the Personal Communication Passport (PPK). The scientific basis of the work are inspired by the findings in the fields of linguistics, speech therapy, psychology and aphasiology.

Self-efficacy is a person's conviction that he or she can perform an activity that is necessary to achieve a goal set in a given life situation. The concept of self-efficacy was first defined by Albert Bandura from Stanford University and was described by him in 1977. So far, studies have been conducted, the results of which suggest that people with aphasia often withdraw from interpersonal contacts and social life. The effects of a stroke often lead to depression, which only deepens the difficult life situation of patients. However, there was a lack of research on the self-efficacy in aphasia, especially in the context of communication functioning. From the point of view of a speech therapy, it is a very interesting issue that may affect the development of more effective therapeutic procedures in the future.

The presented research refers mainly to the pragmatic level of language used by people with aphasia. The issue of patients' self-efficacy was described in the context of patients' linguistic abilities and their readiness to linguistic interaction against the background of situational, social and pragmatic conditions.

In this dissertation, a lot of attention was also paid to the aforementioned Personal Communication Passport – a tool for a therapy of adults with aphasia, which is a part of the objectives of the pragmatic approach in the rehabilitation process of neurological patients. This concept focuses primarily on the social activation of the patient and increasing the effectiveness of communication activities. PPK is to enable patients with profound speech disorders to communicate with other people as freely as possible.

The inspiration to take up this topic was primarily the therapeutic work of the author with the residents of the Foundation for Supporting People with Communication Disorders "Między Słowami" in Gdynia, which resulted in the description of the theoretical basis of the Personal Communication Passport. In the course of the activities carried out, questions arose about the real usefulness of the tool in the lives of people struggling with aphasia and whether its use may have a positive impact on users' self-efficacy in communication situations.

Keywords: speech therapy, aphasia, aphasiology, self-efficacy, aphasia therapy, Personal Communication Passport