



Pergamon

Research in Developmental Disabilities
23 (2002) 149–160

Research
in
Developmental
Disabilities

Impact of stimulation versus microswitch-based programs on indices of happiness of people with profound multiple disabilities

Giulio E. Lancioni^{a,*}, Mark F. O'Reilly^b,
Nirbhay N. Singh^c, Doretta Oliva^d, Jop Groeneweg^a

^a*Department of Psychology, Wassenaarseweg 52, University of Leiden,
2333 AK Leiden, The Netherlands*

^b*University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin, Ireland*

^c*Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA 23298, USA*

^d*Lega F. D'Oro Research Center, Osimo, Italy*

Received 9 July 2001; accepted 11 September 2001

Abstract

This study was designed to assess whether the impact of a microswitch-based program on indices of happiness would be comparable with that of a stimulation program. Three persons with profound multiple disabilities participated. The microswitch-based program produced increases in indices of happiness which were fairly clear for the first two participants and quite modest for the third participant. These data were largely comparable with those obtained with the stimulation program. Implications of the findings in terms of program practicality, participants' independence and environmental control are discussed. © 2002 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: microswitch-based program; indices of happiness; multiple disabilities; stimulation program

1. Introduction

People with severe and profound multiple disabilities often have very limited mobility, reduced sensory input and minimal interaction with the environment,

* Corresponding author. Tel.: +31-71-527-3681; fax: +31-71-527-3619.

E-mail address: lancioni@fsw.leidenuniv.nl (G.E. Lancioni).

with serious risks of low quality of life (Felce & Perry, 1995; Gutowski, 1996; Ko, McConachie, & Jolleff, 1998; Mathy-Laikko, Iacono, Ratcliff, Villarruel, Yoder, & Vanderheiden, 1989; Reid, Phillips, & Green, 1991). The complexity of their situation makes it very difficult for staff to apply conventional programs for developing constructive/adaptive responding and enhancing mood (Ivancic & Bailey, 1996; Mirenda, Iacono, & Williams, 1990; Mount & Cavet, 1995; Raskind, 1993; Thompson & Martin, 1994).

Two special intervention options might be available to staff to improve the situation of these people, that is, the use of stimulation programs and micro-switch-based programs (Crawford & Schuster, 1993; Favell, Realon, & Sutton, 1996; Green & Reid, 1996; Leatherby, Gast, Wolery, & Collins, 1992; Willems & Loebl, 1995). Stimulation programs, consisting of the presentation of pleasant stimuli, have become fairly popular during the last few years (Favell et al., 1996; Green & Reid, 1999a,b; Ivancic, Barrett, Simonow, & Kimberly, 1997). The stimulation is aimed at promoting indices of happiness (e.g., smiling and laughing) and reducing indices of unhappiness (e.g., frowning and crying). There is no expectation of establishing special response skills that could eventually be used by the persons independently to interact with (control) their environment.

Microswitches have been described as tools of access allowing persons with profound and multiple disabilities to develop a successful interaction with the immediate world and establish a form of control over it (Crawford & Schuster, 1993; Lancioni, O'Reilly, & Basili, 2001a; Langley, 1990). Contrary to the stimulation programs, the use of microswitch-based programs is aimed at establishing specific responses that the persons can exercise independently to enrich their situation with preferred events (Kinsley & Langone, 1995; Sullivan, Laverick, & Lewis, 1995; Sullivan & Lewis, 1990, 1993).

The possibility of establishing independent/profitable responses can be considered a great advantage. No evidence is so far available on whether micro-switch-based programs (with independent responses and consequent stimulation) can also enhance the persons' indices of happiness (Glickman, Deitz, Anson, & Stewart, 1996; O'Brien, Glenn, & Cunningham, 1994; Sullivan & Lewis, 1993). Shedding some light on this issue could be essential to determine the relative value of these programs (Ivancic & Bailey, 1996; Lancioni et al., 2001a; Saunders et al., 2001). This study was designed to assess whether the impact of a microswitch-based program on indices of happiness would be comparable with that of a stimulation program, with three persons with profound multiple disabilities.

2. Method

2.1. Participants

The three participants were females of 46, 25, and 13 years of age (Participants 1, 2 and 3). They were in wheelchairs due to spasticity, scoliosis and other

متن کامل مقاله

دریافت فوری ←

ISIArticles

مرجع مقالات تخصصی ایران

- ✓ امکان دانلود نسخه تمام متن مقالات انگلیسی
- ✓ امکان دانلود نسخه ترجمه شده مقالات
- ✓ پذیرش سفارش ترجمه تخصصی
- ✓ امکان جستجو در آرشیو جامعی از صدها موضوع و هزاران مقاله
- ✓ امکان دانلود رایگان ۲ صفحه اول هر مقاله
- ✓ امکان پرداخت اینترنتی با کلیه کارت های عضو شتاب
- ✓ دانلود فوری مقاله پس از پرداخت آنلاین
- ✓ پشتیبانی کامل خرید با بهره مندی از سیستم هوشمند رهگیری سفارشات