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Longitudinal outcomes of cochlear implanted children with cerebral palsy

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Due the safety and encouraging outcomes from auditory rehabilitation through the cochlear implant (CI), the indication process could include children with additional disabilities besides the hearing loss. One of these, are the children with cerebral palsy (CP), who have an intimate relation with hearing loss, due to some risk factors are equal for the both disabilities: hyperbilirubinemia, hypoxia, low Apgar scores. First of all, to analyze the progress of hearing and language in a group of cochlear-implanted children with cerebral palsy (CP) is necessary and holistic approach, to consider their progress in the clinical and functional domains. In this longitudinal study with four evaluations, nine cochlear-implanted children with CP participated, two to ten years old. The assessments undertaken included audiological, language and communication assessments complemented by the assessment of functional abilities and the level of independence evaluated by the Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory (PEDI), Gross Motor Function Classification System (GMFCS) and DENVER-II. The outcomes varied, two children achieved hearing comprehension in open-set evaluations after two years using CI. These children presented the same type of CP, athetosis, but with different functional skills and GMFCS levels (I and IV). Four children had any spoken language, respectively about GMFCS: Two level I, one level IV and one level V. A holistic view of change and development is central to understanding progress made in children with CP who received cochlear implants (CI). The functional evaluation of these children with CP is a useful tool for monitoring their progress and measuring their outcomes with CI.

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Infertility under social, religion and cultural influence: Phenomenological exploration in Northern India

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Society, culture and religion frame the major sphere of life for human kind since starting. Fertility has been one of man's desired attributes since the beginning of recorded history and remains a driving need for young couples today. Infertility, however, continues to be a major worldwide problem, affecting an estimated 60-80 million women and men, a vast majority of whom live in low resource countries. The aim of the study was to assess the living-in experiences of infertile women under social, religion and cultural influence. Present study was a phenomenological study conducted at Infertility Clinic of Haryana, India. Data was collected was semi structured interview guide and face to face in depth interviews. Participants were selected using criterion sampling technique. All interviews were audio-taped using a digital recorder. The findings of the study showed that three main themes related to social, religious and cultural influence with core theme of environmental influence of their infertility experience. The study concluded that there is a huge burden on the part of female to have a baby after marriage. Also the childless women face social and financial adversities at time and this is not limited to low income or low education strata. Healthcare professionals need to understand cultural and social implications of infertility in order to provide counseling and referring women with fertility concerns for consultation and further treatment.

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