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Effectiveness of intervention using Japanese onomatopoeias on pain response of preschool children during venipuncture in outpatient

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The purpose of this study was to identify the effectiveness of verbal intervention with Japanese onomatopoeias, that are considered children with immature language ability can intuitively understand and therefore nurses in pediatric wards often but unconsciously use, on pain response of preschool children during venipuncture in outpatient, a very painful and distressing experience for children. Twenty six Children, aged between 3 and 6, and their parents were randomly assigned. The experimental group (n=13) was provided with verbal intervention in onomatopoeic words during their venipuncture, while the control group (n =13) received non-onomatopoeic words. Their behaviors were assessed three times, before, immediately after, and 5 minutes after venipuncture, with the FLACC (Face, Legs, Activity, Cry, Consolability) Behavioral Scale according to Merkel et al (1977) The degree of pain children felt was measured with Wong & Baker's Pain Rating Scale (1988). Analysis of variance of 2 factors indicated significant difference in the main effect of the time factor, and in the interaction between two groups ($F(2,48)=27.07$, $p<.001$, $F(2,48)=6.243$, $p<.005$). Bonferoni's multiple comparison revealed that in the experimental group, there was significant difference between immediately after and 5 minutes after, before and 5 minutes after the venipuncture. In addition, the experimental group felt significantly less pain than the control group by the subjective evaluation by the children ($p=.69$). These results may support that verbal intervention with onomatopoeia is an effective method to decrease venipuncture pain and distress in preschool children.

Biography

Miyako Ishidate obtained her MS degree in human science at Nihon University. Her working experiences include 10 years as a Nurse in a University hospital and 15 years as a lecturer of nursing. At present, she is in Tokoha University as an Associate Professor teaching pediatric nursing, and in the post graduate school for PhD at Kanagawa University. She has obtained competitive research grants from MEXT (Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Exploratory Research, 2012-2015) and from Yokohama Academic Foundation (2013).

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