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Evaluating the outcome of a school-based occupational therapy service: Single-subject case study

Mian Yee Choy, Hui Nee Tang
KK Women's and Children's Hospital, Singapore, Singapore, Singapore

Introduction

Support for children with developmental needs within an inclusive setting in Singapore is a relatively new phenomenon. The provision of occupational therapy services to children needing therapy support in the school system is a relatively new area of paediatric practice in Singapore. Such provision of occupational therapy services to children within ordinary kindergatens remains relatively rare as well. The purpose of this single-subject case study is to report on the outcome of school-based occupational therapy on the subject's schoolwork productivity and quality of schoolwork tasks in the classroom.

Methodology

The study will be carried out in 3 phases, consisting of baseline, intervention and maintenance phases. Data will be collected throughout the study phase. Standardized assessments, observations, evaluation of goals met on the subject's Individual Education Plan (IEP) and Perception Rating Scale questionnaires were used to evaluate outcomes. Two subjects will be recruited for the study.

Results

Analysis of scores on standardised assessments, observations, evaluation of goals met on the subject's Individual Education Plan (IEP) and responses from the questionnaires filled up by parents and teachers will be described and discussed.

Conclusion

It is hoped that the outcome of the single-case study will enhance and further support the importance of occupational therapy in contributing to student's optimal participation in school-related activities. It is also hoped that together with other relevant research, this research will provide pertinent information to other providers of occupational therapy in the school system which may enable them to communicate confidently the effectiveness of their interventions to funding agencies, schools, families and children as well as heighten awareness of occupational therapy services in the schools.