

Effectiveness of visual prompting technique on safety strategies to overcome sexual abuse by the familiar persons among females with mild intellectual disability

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Abstract

This study was conducted to see the effectiveness of visual prompting technique when used as antecedents for imparting knowledge on safety strategies to overcome sexual abuse by the familiar persons among 30 females with mild intellectual disability. Participants were taught seven different skills, and the effects of the technique were evaluated. The results can be interpreted to conclude that visual prompting technique was effective in terms of imparting knowledge on safety strategies to overcome sexual abuse by the familiar persons among females with mild intellectual disability.

Keywords: abuse, intellectual disability, safety, visual prompting technique

Introduction

People with intellectual disabilities experience more violence in general than people without disabilities. Mostly the perpetrators are those who are known by the victim, such as family members and care takers, Research suggests that 97 to 99 percent of abusers are known and trusted by the victim who has intellectual disabilities. The recent global estimates for abuse reveal that thirty percentages of women aged 15 and over have experienced physical and or sexual abuse in their life span (Devries, Mark, Garcia Moreno and Petzold, WHO, 2013; *et al* 2013) [3].

Objectives

- To explore the knowledge of safety strategies used by the females with mild intellectual disability towards familiar persons
- To find out the effectiveness of visual prompting technique in imparting knowledge on safety strategies.

Methodology

Stratified Random sampling was used to select 30 girls with mild intellectual disability from the residential homes and

special schools in and around Coimbatore district. Safety strategies that have to be maintained between male and female family members were explained clearly through visual prompting technique. Quasi experimental design (i.e) single group pre and post test design was used. The intervention was given for a period of three months in one to one manner. The pre and post test level of knowledge on safety strategies was assessed by creating 'What if' situation test. The collected datas were statistically analyzed using paired "t" test method.

Description of intervention

Prompting technique was used to explain the safety strategy through video clippings with audio and picture booklet with explanation in regional language. The components of the strategies included were assertiveness, communication skills, feelings that happens in their body, good and bad touch, private and public parts, dressings in private and public places and the rights on their own body were clearly explained in step by step manner. The intervention was carried out for a period of three months. The intervention was carried out for each individual with the use of lap top and picture booklet.

Table 1: Pre and post test mean scores of knowledge on safety strategies towards family members among girls with mild intellectual disability

Skill	No	df	Testing	Mean	S.D	t Value
Knowledge on safety strategy	30	29	Before	1.37	0.76	9.62**
			After	3.13	0.86	

** Significant at 1% level

The findings of the study showed that, the pretest mean score was 1.37 with the SD of 0.76 and post test mean score was 3.13 with the SD of 0.86 The calculated 't' value was 9.62 which indicated that there was high statistical significant difference in post test level of knowledge at 0.01 level. Therefore the null hypothesis stated that "there is no significant difference in mean scores of knowledge on safety strategies to overcome sexual abuse by the familiar persons" is rejected. It means that there was a significant effect of Visual Prompting Technique on safety strategies to overcome

sexual abuse by the familiar persons among females with mild intellectual disability.

Conclusion

The study showed that the visual prompting technique had improved the level of knowledge on safety strategies to overcome sexual abuse by the familiar persons among females with mild intellectual disability. Hence this intervention will reduce the level of sexual abuse among the females with mild intellectual disability.

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