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Development of a Global Assessment of Functioning Scale in People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD)

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Introduction

In the last years there is more research in a differentiated view of the capacity of people with IDD. Besides the evaluation of cognitive functioning, studies also look at other developmental dimensions like socioemotional skills. Because of their basically biological character, motor skills were not further studied in people with IDD. We wanted to study whether there is a correlation between these different dimensions in patients with IDD.

Objective

This presentation will look at possible connections and interferences between socio-emotional development, cognitive functions and motor skills.

Methods

We evaluated the level of motor development with the 'Movement Assessment Battery for Children" in n= 31 patients. Results were correlated with the level of cognitive impairment and socio-emotional status.

Results

In contrast to cognitive functioning we found no significant difference between the socio-emotional and the motor skills for all study patients, regardless of sex, in the subscales manual and ball skills. Only in the subscale balance we found a significant correlation with the socio-emotional level in female patients.

Conclusion

With regard to the dimensions cognitive impairment and socio-emotional level we found no significant correlation with motor skills. This is in accordance with the literature. Only in the dimension 'balance' in female patients we could see a significant difference which is a new result and interesting for further evaluation. So another study with a bigger and more balanced patient sample to confirm this result is planned.