

Target Area: Challenging Behaviour

Neurological Group: Traumatic Brain Injury

Hegel and Ferguson (2000). Differential reinforcement of other behaviour (DRO) to reduce aggressive behaviour following traumatic brain injury. <i>Behav Modif</i> , 24(1): 94-101.	RoBiNT score - 11/30
Method / Results	Rehabilitation Program
<ul> <li>Design <ul> <li>Study Design: SCD. Multiple baseline across settings.</li> <li>Population: n=1. Male, age 28, severe head injury post motor vehicle accident. Impairments included ataxia marked by limbic spasticity, speech apraxia and receptive language difficulties.</li> <li>Setting: Long-term rehabilitation and skilled nursing facility.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Target behaviour measure/s: <ul> <li>Reduction in problem behaviours operationally defined as instances of kicking and grabbing at people or objects.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Primary outcome measure/s: <ul> <li>No other standardised measure.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Results: No statistical analysis conducted, however graphical representation indicates sharp reduction in frequency of aggressive behaviours after implementation of differential reinforcement of other behaviour (DRO) strategies (74% reduction).</li> <li>Target behaviours were reported to decrease in specific setting if DRO was implemented in that specific setting. Improvements were maintained at 1-month follow-up.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Aim: To examine the efficacy of differential reinforcement of other behaviour (DRO) in reducing aggressive and disruptive behaviour in an adult male.</li> <li>Materials: Behaviour checklist, desirable events checklist (Hegel, 1988), timer.</li> <li>Treatment Plan: <ul> <li>Duration: Entire intervention duration unclear from report.</li> <li>Procedure: Data collected in the morning from 7am to 3pm and evening from 3pm to 11pm. Time intervals started with 30 minutes with gradual increase by 15 minutes when patient demonstrated stability in decrements across three data points.</li> <li>Content: <ul> <li>Rationale for DRO procedure was provided. Timer was placed on top of nursing desk in clear view of patient. Timer was reset once time goals were met.</li> <li>Participant was required to use appropriate method for gaining attention and communicating by using call bell and communication board or sit quietly for increasing lengths to obtain predetermined rewarding event.</li> <li>Contingent praise provided when participant reached time goal. Examples of reinforcing events included yogurt dispensed in medicine cup, 5-minute tour outside facility, radio or music listening for 5 minutes, 5-minute card game with staff member.</li> <li>If participant engaged in target behaviours during time interval, stern and brief reprimand given without further interaction or incident was reported on behaviour checklist and timer was reset.</li> </ul> </li> </ul></li></ul>