

Target Area: Challenging Behaviour

Neurological Group: Traumatic Brain Injury

O'Leary (2000). Reducing aggression in adults with brain injuries. <i>Behav Intervent</i> , 15(3): 205-216.	RoBiNT score - 8/30
Method / Results	Rehabilitation Program
<ul> <li>Design <ul> <li>Study Type: SCD. ABA design (A=baseline/withdrawal, B=intervention), replicated across participants.</li> <li>Population: Data not presented for individual participants: 5 males, aged 21-42 years, with brain injuries 4 months - 5 years previously. All had histories with verbal and physical aggression, with 2/5 additionally being aggressive pre-injury.</li> <li>Setting: Inpatient rehabilitation unit.</li> </ul> Target behaviour measure/s: <ul> <li>Incidents of verbal aggression (e.g. yelling, cursing, threatening) or physical aggression (e.g. hitting, kicking, spitting, destroying property).</li> </ul> Primary outcome measure/s: <ul> <li>No other standardised measure.</li> </ul> Results: Graphed data presented; no statistical analyses conducted. Treatment effects varied across participants, but were clearly effective for most participants by the end of training. Treatment effects were maintained during withdrawal.</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Aim: To reduce verbal and physical aggression in patients with TBI.</li> <li>Materials: Written materials, role-plays, audiotapes group discussion and lecture.</li> <li>Treatment Plan: <ul> <li>Duration: 10 weeks.</li> <li>Procedure: 2 sessions per week, 1 hour persession; total of 20 contact hours.</li> <li>Content:</li> <li>Two themes to the program were addressed each week: the first session addressed coping skills and managing everyday stress, the second session targeted anger management strategies drawing upon the work of Goldstein and Glick (1993).</li> <li>Coping skills sessions covered the following</li> <li>Stress and its sources.</li> <li>Coping and its consequences.</li> <li>Developing lists of pleasant activities</li> <li>Relaxation training.</li> <li>Anger management exercises.</li> <li>Role plays of coping strategies.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Anger management and the antecedent – behaviour – consequences model (ABC).</li> <li>Awareness of anger and training in anger reducers, use of hassle logs.</li> <li>Understanding anger and its triggers.</li> <li>Reminders.</li> <li>Self-evaluation (self-rewarding and self coaching).</li> <li>Thinking ahead ("IF-THEN").</li> <li>Identifying and changing anger-provoking behaviours.</li> </ul>