

NeuroRehab Evidence Database

Target Area: Challenging Behaviour

Neurological Group: Traumatic Brain Injury

Sohlberg et al. (1988). Efficacy of an external cueing system in an individual with severe frontal lobe damage. *J Cogn Rehab*, 6(4): 36-41.

RoBiNT score - 12/30

Method / Results

Study Type: SCD. Multiple baseline across behaviours (verbal initiation and response

- Population: n=1: male, age 38 years, with severe TBI after a motor vehicle accident.
- **Setting:** Outpatient treatment program.

Target behaviour measure/s:

acknowledgement).

- Verbal initiation, or initiation of a conversation. This was operationally defined as any solicited verbal behaviour that was contingent upon (or adjacent to) the antecedent comment in the group conversation. This did not include responses to questions or unrelated comments.
- Response acknowledgement (e.g. exhibiting eye contact with the speaker, smiling contingently upon another's verbal behaviour).

Primary outcome measure/s:

• No other standardised measure.

Results: Visual analysis of graphed data showed verbal initiation increased from baseline during active self-monitoring intervention but decreased once intervention changed to the second behaviour (but remained above baseline levels). Response acknowledgement remained relatively stable during baseline and behaviour 1 intervention but increased during self-monitoring intervention. No statistical analysis was performed.

Rehabilitation Program

Aim: To increase verbal initiation of conversations and response acknowledgement during group therapy.

Materials: Cards with a star, cards with a circle and a self-monitoring record sheet.

Treatment Plan:

- **Duration:** Not specified in report.
- **Procedure:** 1 training session of unspecified duration and self-monitoring recorded for an unspecified length of time, during group sessions.

• Content:

- Self-monitoring technique was used —
 Participant was instructed on the
 benefits of initiating conversations in
 group therapy. When given a card with a
 star on it, participant was to ask himself
 "Am I initiating conversation?" and had
 to record yes/no.
- A similar technique was used for the second behaviour. This time participant received a card with a circle on it, which cued him to ask himself "Am I acknowledging other people's talking?", he then recorded yes/no.