

NeuroRehab Evidence Database

Target Area: Challenging Behaviour

Neurological Group: Traumatic Brain Injury

Wesolowski et al. (1993). Effects of feedback and behaviour contracting on head trauma persons' inappropriate sexual behaviour. *Behav Resid Treat*, 8(2): 89-96.

RoBiNT score - 14/30

Method / Results

Rehabilitation Program

Design

• **Study Type:** SCD. ABAB design (A – baseline, B – intervention).

- **Population:** n=3.
 - Peggy: female, 31 years old, sustained a closed head injury subsequent to an automobile accident.
 - Mage: female, 18 years old, sustained a closed head injury at the age of 6 months after falling out of a high chair.
 - Andy: male, 25 years old, sustained a closed head injury following a motorcycle accident.
- **Setting:** In-patient rehabilitation facility.

Target behaviour measure/s:

- All participants: reduction in frequency of inappropriate touching which included kissing or touching member of opposite sex, excluding handshakes.
- Andy: reduction in frequency of sexual comments.

Primary outcome measure/s:

• No other standardised measure.

Results: Visual analysis of graphed data showed scheduled feedback and pairing with behaviour contracts resulted in reduction of inappropriate sexual touching. No statistical analysis was performed.

Aim: To demonstrate the efficacy of using scheduled feedback with differential reinforcement with low rate of responding (DRL) to reduce inappropriate touching.

Materials: Data sheet developed with 7 columns on top of page for each day of week and 16 columns for every waking hour to record frequency.

Treatment Plan:

- Duration: 40 50 weeks.
- **Procedure**: Data collected for 16 continuous hours the clients were awake. Feedback was provided between 7:00am and 11:00pm.
- Content:
- <u>Baseline condition</u>: Staff observations and redirection to new activity if inappropriate behaviour observed without any instruction. Sexual comments ignored.
- <u>Scheduled feedback:</u> Staff informed participants whether behaviour was appropriate or inappropriate through specific examples. Hourly verbal and written feedback provided.
- Scheduled feedback with behaviour contracting (DRL): Participants earned pre- established activities (e.g. trips to shopping mall, supervised dates, dinner and movies out) for demonstrating low frequency of inappropriate behaviours. Frequency of feedback gradually reduced.