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Melodic Intonation Therapy With Music Support in Patients With Aphasia of Expression

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Aphasia is an acquired disorder of language processing due to brain damage, which can compromise expressive and receptive aspects. Music therapy can contribute both to the rehabilitation of the aphasic subjects' linguistic abilities, facilitating verbal and non-verbal communication and strengthening neuropsychological functions, as well as modulation of emotions, improving mood and quality of life. Melodic Intonation Therapy (MIT) is a rehabilitation technique that proposes to develop verbal fluency and prosody by means of steps, in which sentences and prayers are used to produce the patient. **Objective:** Verify in the specialized literature the application and the efficacy of MIT with the support of music in patients with Expressive Aphasias, through selected articles. **Methods:** It was carried out an extensive research and articles published between 2011 and 2017, indexed in the data bases SCIELO, MEDLINE and LILACS, were selected. The following keywords were selected in portuguese: music, aphasia and expressive language. **Results and Discussion:** The MIT uses the supra-segmental aspects of speech, that is, of prosodic elements. In cases of expressive aphasia a function of the chant is preserved, because it activates the right cerebral hemisphere, which is the opposite side to an injury present in aphasic individuals. Thus, we verified that MIT adapted with the support of music, offer significant results in patients with aphasia of expression: improve in speech fluency, reduction of anomies, improvement in syntax of speech and dyspraxia of speech, and improvement of attention functions, memory of work, episodic-semantic verbal memory (recognition), prospective memory, naming, reading aloud, spontaneous writing and dictation. **Conclusion:** Aiming to restructure the language of patients with aphasic of expression, a MIT contributes not only to the rescue of communicative skills, but also to the social reinser-tion of people and improving their quality of life.

Keywords: Music, Aphasia and Expressive Language.

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