DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE AND SPEECH ALTERATIONS IN CHILDREN WITH ISOLATED ROBIN SEQUENCE

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OBJECTIVES: To evaluate the development of language and alterations in the speech of children from 3 to 6 years of age with isolated Robin Sequence (IRS), submitted to the treatment protocol of Hospital de Reabilitação de Anomalias Craniofaciais - HRAC. METHODS: The sample consisted of 26 children with an average age of 3 years and 3 months, evaluated by a speech therapist with experience. In children 2 to 3 years and 11 months of age, the Receptive expressive emergent scale-second edition and Early Language Milestone Scale modified by Leirião (2003) was used; in patients older than 4 years, we applied the evaluation protocol data obtained through conversation and spontaneous directed speech sample, and tests for specific evaluation of the velopharyngeal mechanism. RESULTS: Language was appropriate to the age at 80.76%, below the expected for receptive and expressive language in 11.53%, borderline for expressive language and adequate for receptive 7.69%. Speech intelligibility performed good in 42% and impaired in 57.7%, phonology is found adequate in 38.46%, not expected to age in 34.6% and expected for their age in 26.9%. Compensatory articulations were found in 46.15% of children and absent in 53.84%. Resonance was considered balanced in 76.9% and hypernasal in 19.23%, and one patient was not evaluated. CONCLUSIONS: The majority of children with ISR treated according to the protocol of HRAC shows adequate language, but speech alterations as hypernasality and compensatory articulations interfere with intelligibility and damage communication. These individuals should receive appropriate treatment, surgery or therapy for complete rehabilitation. Follow-up is needed throughout infancy, aiming to avoid future sequelae and developmental delays.

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