

## **ABSTRACT OF MASTER DEGREE**

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**Oponent:**

**Title:** Alternative communication for clients with pervasive developmental disorder

### **Abstract:**

The main purpose of this thesis was to find out and describe options and meaning of occupational therapy intervention in the area of alternative communication for clients with pervasive developmental disorder. These clients always show specific disrupted areas, which are social interactions, game and communication. The areas are interconnected and restrict these individuals in their self-sufficiency and daily life. Most of these clients need a compensation tool for communication. The theoretical part deals with most used methods and tools in alternative communication. It describes the simplest communication systems to the latest assistive technologies, which are used mostly abroad. An important part for the clients is an interprofessional team of professionals, who together determine therapeutic purpose and problematic parts of clients' life.

The practical part describes the most common interprofessional cooperation at the clients. Based on jointly stated purpose for six clients with pervasive developmental disorder was design ergotherapeutic intervention and were suggested optimal tools for alternative communication at these clients. The PEDI (Pediatric Child Disability Assessment) test, which evaluated the client's social functions, was chosen to objectify the three-month therapeutic intervention. At the last intervention was judged if the client fulfilled the determined the purpose. Based on the case studies, it was possible to evaluate which communication tools have a positive effect on the social function of an individual with a pervasive developmental disorder.

**Key words:** Alternative communication, occupational therapy, pervasive developmental disorder, self-help devices, assistive technology