

Summary

Thesis title: People suffering from communication disorders in general practitioner's office

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The thesis focuses on the problematics of communication disorders and in what way general practitioners encounter it in their office, especially with specific number of their patients considering their age, sex, and active speech/language pathology care. The thesis is divided into theoretical and research part.

The theoretical part describes characteristics of communication disorders which are encountered by a general practitioner on a daily basis. More attention is given to aphasia, as there is a subsequent qualitative research.

The research part is divided into a quantitative research that verifies set hypotheses, and a qualitative research which shows the communication disorder from a more specific point of view by using five different case interpretations.

The research file included 1054 patients who came in the general practitioners office during 22 months, usually repeatedly. There have been four hypotheses set for verification. The research based on these four hypotheses allowed us to conclude in this:

Hypothesis H 1: *At least every tenth person coming to the GP's office shows signs of communication disorder.* With regard to a higher number of patients suffering from communication disorder, the hypothesis was verified.

Hypothesis H 2: *The number of women suffering from communication disorder is higher than the number of men.* The hypothesis was verified with regard to the prevailing number of women in the sample of patients suffering from communication disorder.

Hypothesis H 3: *The amount of adult patients suffering from communication disorder is higher with older age.* The hypothesis was not verified with regard to the declining representation of patients suffering from communicative disorder who are over 91 years.

Hypothesis H 4: *Active speech-language pathological care is provided for patients suffering from communication disorder in less than 5% of the cases.* Hypothesis was not verified with regard to a higher number of patients who are actively participating in speech-language pathology.

KEY WORDS

communication, speech, communication disorder, patient, aphasia