

TITLE: *Development of communication for the children with autistic spectrum disorders*

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Abstract

The present thesis deals with the issue of development of communication for the children with autistic spectrum disorders. The paper and the research project particularly aim to analyse a development of communication for the children with autistic spectrum disorders from the view of clinical speech-language pathology. To carry out the research, five hypotheses were suggested. The hypotheses relate to clients with an ASD, to what extent specialists are informed about the issue, number of children with definite diagnostic category, interdisciplinary co-operation and use of alternative and augmentative communication. The research itself is realised in two ways – the quantitative one (questionnaires distributed to clinical speech-language pathologists) and the qualitative one which focuses on the evaluation of speech-language intervention for clients with ASD in the consulting room of clinical speech-language pathologists. The following techniques were included in the research: analysis of documents and results of activities, talks to parents and class teachers and monitoring.

The primary goal of the thesis is to assess the current state of speech-language intervention for clients with ASD from the view of the clinical speech-language pathology and also to show in what ways therapies can be led.

Key words:

communication, pervasive developmental disorders, autism spectrum disorders, alternative and augmentative communication, clinical speech-language pathology