

ABSTRACT

This diploma thesis deals with specific language impairment as a risk factor of cochlear implantation. This diagnosis may fundamentally disrupt the development of speech after cochlear implantation. The main aim of this work was identification and comparison of used communication systems of persons with cochlear implant and diagnosed with developmental dysphasia. We focused on the morphological-syntactic level of language as a part of verbal level of communication.

A qualitative survey was carried out at elementary schools for the hearing impaired. The research sample consisted of five pupils of these schools. Pupils were selected based on their use of the cochlear implant, diagnosed specific language impairment and other factors. Required data was obtained on the basis of observation and through the subtests of the Diagnostics of Language Development test battery.

The investigation has revealed that despite cochlear implantation the preferred and more frequently used communication system is sign language. All pupils in the research group are able to communicate through spoken language, but they need to complement and support it by at least some individual elements of the sign language. Morphological-syntactic level of spoken speech was striking for all of the pupils in the research group. Pupils were able to apply some grammatical rules. However, they applied them rigidly and did not allow for exceptions. They were also unable to combine these rules with each other.

The results of this work provide partial information on the communication of people who have not received much attention so far. The information can be used to streamline the teaching of these people.

KEYWORDS

Cochlear implantation, specific language impairment, communication systems, sign language, spoken speech, morphological-syntactic level