

Abstract

The aim of this final thesis is to apply Feuerstein's instrumental enrichment program (FIE) to a person with traumatic brain injury (TBI). The theoretical part deals with the problematic of traumatic brain injury and Feuerstein's approach to the development of cognitive functions. The empirical part focuses on qualitative research to find out whether there has been an improvement in cognitive functions with three respondents with TBI after five months of intervention using the FIE program, or not. Respondents are young men aged between 23 and 32, about 10 years after the accident, who regularly rehabilitate and undergo reeducation at the Jedlička Institute and Schools (JÚŠ). The aim of the research is to compare whether the influence of the FIE program has improved cognitive functions. The comparison is achieved by objective assessment of cognitive functions using Klecanská opakovatelná neuropsychologická baterie (KONB; Klecany Repeatable Neuropsychological Battery).

The results of the research are presented in structured case studies. These in addition to the results of the KONB examination and the description of several months of intervention, follows the respondents throughout their past from life before the accident, through the rehabilitation of the consequences of the accident to the present life. The data were obtained from interviews records with respondents and their close relatives, from the results of the pre- and post- intervention examinations and from observations of FIE program. Objective examination showed slight improvement in executive functions by two respondents, while other monitored cognitive functions were not improved. There was no improvement of cognitive functions by the third respondent. The subjective evaluation of respondents did not show improvement as a result of the FIE program. Although qualitative assessment of changes did not occur, qualitative changes were noted during the FIE program.

Key words:

Feuerstein's Instrumental Enrichment, cognitive functions, experience of mediated learning, traumatic brain injury, consequences of brain injury, Klecany Repeatable Neuropsychological Battery