



Parents' attitudes about Speech Delay in Children Under 5 at an Iraqi Holy Kerbala City Hearing and Speech Center 2022

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Abstract

Background & Aim:When a child does not meet the predicted speech milestones for their chronological age, it is known as a "speech delay."The child is unable to communicate effectively due to linguistic problems, a high majority of children will show evidence of long-term academic and social deficits. There's a chance the influence will be felt. To mention a few, there are difficulties with understandable speech, working memory, and advanced vocabulary (Ambrose, 2022). And the **aim** of study was to investigate the Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years and also to determine the relationship between parent's sociodemographic such as age, gender, level of education, type of family, and crowding index with parents' Attitude toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years at Hearing and Speech Center.

Methods & Materials:A descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study was used. The research has been carried out in Hearing and Speech Center in Holy Kerbala City of Iraq. A non-probability (purposive) sample of (100) of Parents' Children Under 5-Years that have Speech Delay was used to determine appropriateness. The data was taken from October 2021, to July 2022. And the researcher use adapted questionnaire that consist of two part ((Part I: Demographic Characteristics, Part II: Attitude of Parents'about Speech Delay in Children under 5-Years)).

Results: The study found that children parents' demographic characteristic indicates that the majority of the children parents' answer the questioner was mother of child with percentage 24 % of all (100) study sample. And according to age of child parents the majority was with age group 26-35 Years with percent 41 %. While the Attitude response toward Attitude questioner for parents about delayed speech, the results show Low to moderate attitude level over all question. Also according to relationship between Demographic Characteristics and level of Attitude the results show a high significant effect between Demographic Characteristics of Parents' and Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years according to Chi-Square Tests and comparing the result with standard P- Value 0.05.

Conclusion:Considering the study's findings about Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years the study find low to moderate attitude level and that will increase the effect and difficulty of speech delay on children and that causing decrease the healing and learning of children.

Keywords: Attitude, Parents, Speech Delay, Children.

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Introduction:

Speech delay is a fluency condition characterized by refers to a delay in the development or use of the mechanisms that produce speech that make it difficult to produce continuous, effortless, and smooth speech. Speech delay, also known as alalia, is a widespread illness that affects people of all countries and races and is a complex issue. No one is immune to speech delay, regardless of intelligence, wealth, or profession. Although the prevalence rates vary by gender, it affects people

of all ages. Children between the ages of three and six who are still developing their language abilities are most likely to stutter. It seems to affect men more frequently than women. (1,4)

Any variety of conditions, such as mental retardation, hearing loss, an expressive language impairment, psychosocial deprivation, autism, elective mutism, receptive aphasia, and cerebral palsy, can cause a delay in speech development. Delay in development or bilingualism may cause



speech delay. Physicians can make an accurate diagnosis quickly by being aware of the things to look for when obtaining the history and conducting the physical examination. Early identification and treatment may lessen the emotional, social, and cognitive disadvantages associated with this condition and enhance the prognosis.(3)

There are currently no accurate predictions of the prevalence of various types of child speech impairments for developing genetic studies, other research, and practical needs. Measurement techniques and diagnostic criteria for various subtypes of child speech problems, as well as other pertinent methodological difficulties in the field, have been covered elsewhere. As shown in the following summary, the main objective of the current study was to assess the prevalence of speech delay (SD), a classificatory term. The study's secondary objective was to calculate the comorbidity between SD and language impairment, including specific language impairment (SLI). (6)

A child is generally considered to have a speech delay if their level of speech development is significantly lower than the average for kids their age. The speech development of a kid with speech delay is comparable to that of a typically developing child who is younger chronologically; the speech-delayed child's skills are learned in the same order but at a slower rate than usual. (2, 5)

Children's doctors have long been concerned about speech delays. The worry is well-founded because a number of developmental issues go hand in hand with delayed speech beginning. Delay in speech development may also have a big impact on a person's emotional, social, academic, and ultimately, professional life. Early detection and effective care may lessen this disability's emotional, social, and cognitive disadvantages and enhance the outcome(9).

Etiology of Delay in speech can be a symptom of many different diseases. The issue's root causes are (Mental retardationHearing loss, Maturation delay,(developmental language

delay), Expressive language disorder (developmental expressive aphasia, Bilingualism, Psychosocial deprivation, Elective mutism, Autism, Cerebral palsy,and Receptive aphasia.

When evaluating kids with speech delays, a child's history and physical are crucial. The Attitude gained will assist the doctor in choosing the best research for additional evaluation.

The hospital in Kerbalagovernorate (a designated Hearing and Speech Center) has been actively preparing to better respond to the training children with speech delay. These centers have been prepared with specialized doctors, nurses, and trainers in the field of helping children who have speech delays to restore their normal lives, compared with children who are close to them in age groups, through the use of special programs for training in speech and verbal and audio communication, and these centers are equipped with the latest And the best aids that are used during training children, as well as to train parents on how to deal with their children who suffer from delayed pronunciation in order to reach the best supportive environment for the child to get rid of the problems facing children.

Methodology:

A descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study was used. The research has been carried out in Hearing and Speech Center in Holy Kerbala City of Iraq.A quantitative research approach was followed on children who have speech delay and attending Hearing and Speech Center in Imam Al-Hassan hospital to investigate the Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years with application of a descriptive analytical cross-sectional study survey design in order to achieve the early stated objectives. The survey questionnaire was obtain to collecting information from Parents' by using adapted questionnaire. This descriptive survey was selected because it provides an accurate depiction or explanation of the characteristics (Attitude). The study was begun from October 2021, to July 2022

Sample of the Study the total number of children who attending Hearing and Speech



Center in Imam Al-Hassan hospital is ((100 children)). This children number distribution between several different cases (autism, brain anomalies, ADHD, hearing disorder, and etc..). That shares the same health problem (speech delay). In this study include just children with speech delay and without any other medical or mental problem .

A purposive sample of (100) children with speech delay nurses who attending Hearing and Speech Center in Imam Al-Hassan hospital to participating in speech training program.

The preliminary assessment reflections before initial the study aimed at assessing Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children nurses under 5-Years.

Closed ended question by using adapted questionnaire that consist of two part ((Part I: Demographic Characteristics, Part II: Attitude of Parents' towardSpeech Delay in Children under 5-

Years)). Was used to perform the preliminary assessment, its arrangement was based on review of related literature, and previous study that using the same topics ((speech delay)). Data were collected from (10) children who attending Hearing and Speech Center in Imam Al-Hassan hospital.

Following an assessment of the relevant literature and studies, the researcher constructed the study investigating questionnaire to assess the Attitude among Children under 5-Years at Hearing and Speech Center, in order to identify the Parents' Attitude.

Results andDiscussion: Findings of the data analysis, which are in line with the study's objectives. The data was evaluated using statistical processes that were then altered and interpreted. The followingtables are a breakdown of the study findings.

Table (1)Distribution of Children Parent's Demographic Characteristic that have Speech Delay at Hearing and Speech Center in Holy Kerbala City.

Demographic Characteristic		Freq.	%	Cum. %
How answer the questioner	Father	24	24.0	24.0
	Mother	76	76.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	
Age Of child Parent's	25 Years And Less	8	8.0	8.0
	26-35 Years	41	41.0	49.0
	36-45 Years	29	29.0	78.0
	46-55 Years	16	16.0	94.0
	56 Years And More	6	6.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	
Education level Of child Parent's	Don't Read And Writ	1	1.0	1.0
	Read And Writ	10	10.0	11.0
	Secondary	31	31.0	42.0
	Diploma	20	20.0	62.0
	Bacaloreos And Others	38	38.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	
Work Of child Parent's	Hose Wife / Free Work	62	62.0	62.0
	Employment	38	38.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	

Table (1) represent the distribution of parents' demographic characteristic of children under 5-years that have speech delay who attending hearing and speech center in holy

kerbala city. The results in this table indicates that the majority of the children parents' that participating in the study and answer the questioner was mother of child with percentage



24 % of all (100) study sample. And according to age of child parents the majority of them was with age group 26-35 Years with percent 41 .%

While the results in this table according education level of child parent's the study finding show the majority of the sample was have a bachelor and others with percentage 38.%

Regarding the work of child parent's the study finding show the majority of the sample was hose wife / free work with percentage 62.%

Also regarding the question how many child in the family the study results show that more than half of participants have tow child with percentage 51.%

Likewise concerning the child age the study results show that more than half of children was with age from three to four years with percentage 67.%

While the results in table above according to gender of child the study results show that more than half of children was with male gender and the percentage was 55.%

Regarding the sequence of child in family the study finding show the majority of the sample was with category the Second child in the family and the percentage was 42.%

Finally, regarding the family history "if have any brother or sister with speech delay" the study results show that majority of children was don't have brother or sister with speech delay and the percentage was 81 %..



How Many Child In Family	One Child	12	12.0	12.0
	Tow Child	51	51.0	63.0
	Three Child	5	5.0	68.0
	Four Child And More	32	32.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	
Child Age	1to 2 Year	17	17.0	17.0
	3 To 4 Year	67	67.0	84.0
	5 Year	16	16.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	
Gender of Child	Male	55	55.0	55.0
	Female	45	45.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	
Sequence Of Child In Family	The One	37	37.0	37.0
	The Second	42	42.0	79.0
	The Three	7	7.0	86.0
	The Four	14	14.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	
If Have Brother ,Sister With Speech Delay	Yes	19	19.0	19.0
	No	81	81.0	100.0
	Total	100	100.0	

Table (2) Descriptive statistics (Mean of Score, Standard Deviation, &Assessment According to Relative Sufficiency) of Some Question for the Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years at Hearing and Speech Center in Holy Kerbala City.

Attitude of Parents' toward Speech delay							
		Fq.	%	M.S	S.D	R.s	Ass
A child's learning to pronounce requires training more than twice a day	Don't agree	6	6.0	4.29	0.756	85.8	M
	Agree	53	53.0				
	Strongly Agree	41	41.0				
Focus training on syllables, words, and repetitive phrases	Neutral	6	6.0	4.17	0.514	83.4	M
	Agree	71	71.0				
	Strongly Agree	23	23.0				
Using gestures when talking to a child improves pronunciation skills	Disagree	13	13.0	3.56	0.891	87.4	M
	Neutral	32	32.0				
	Agree	41	41.0				
	Strongly Agree	14	14.0				
Encourage the child when he exercises his speaking skills.	Neutral	6	6.0	4.25	0.557	85	M
	Agree	63	63.0				
	Strongly Agree	31	31.0				
Spending enough time with the child increases pronunciation skills.	Agree	69	69.0	4.31	0.465	86.2	M
	Strongly Agree	31	31.0				
Talking to the child directly improves his pronunciation skills.	Disagree	7	7.0	3.96	0.618	79.2	M
	Agree	83	83.0				
	Strongly Agree	10	10.0				



Table (2) reveals the Attitude of respondents toward Descriptive statistics (Mean of Score, Standard Deviation, and Assessment According to relative sufficiency) of Question for the Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children under 5-Years at Hearing and Speech Center in Holy Kerbala City, and the results of this table show:

The Attitude response toward first part of Attitude questioner (general Attitude for parents about delayed speech) the results show Low Attitude level over all question.

The Attitude response toward second part of Parents' Attitude questioner (Parents'

Attitude about the symptoms and signs of delayed speech in children) the results show Low Attitude level over most of question.

The Attitude response toward Third part of Parents' Attitude questioner (Parents' Attitude of the causes of delayed speech in children) the results show Low Attitude level over most of question.

The Attitude response toward Third part of Parents' Attitude questioner (Parents' Attitude about the effects of delayed speech) the results show Low Attitude level over most of question.

Table (3) Association among Predicted (Demographic) Characteristics Variables and Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years at Hearing and Speech Center in Holy Kerbala City (N=100)

Variables	Predicted variables	P-value	Ass.
Demographic Characteristics of Parents'	Who of Parents Answer the Questioner	0.001	S
	Age	0.001	S
	Educational level	0.001	S
	Occupation	0.001	S
	Number Of Children	0.001	S
Demographic Characteristics of children	Age	0.001	S
	Gender	0.001	S
	Arranging the Child in the Family	0.001	S
	If any Brothers have Speech Delay	0.001	S

Table (3) Reveals the Association and relationship among Predicted (Demographic) Characteristics Variables and Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years at Hearing and Speech Center in Holy Kerbala City, and the results of this table show:

There is a significant effect between Demographic Characteristics of Parents' and Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years according to Chi-Square

Conclusion:

The current study investigated the Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among

Tests and comparing the result with standard P-Value 0.05.

Also there is a significant effect between Demographic Characteristics of children and Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years according to Chi-Square Tests and comparing the result with standard P-Value 0.05.



Children Under 5-Years at Hearing and Speech Center in Holy Kerbala City, and the study come out with the flowing conclusions:

The mothers of child has more interesting about the child problem and its most of time visit the hearing center and bring the child to hearing and speech center, and that's may because the majority of men (children father's) are busy in working.

Also the more than half children was male that lead us to ask more question about the causing of being male effect with speech delay more than female.

While after investigate the Attitude level the conclusion was the parents have low Attitude level regarding speech delay and how to care of child with this problem. And that lead to make child problem more difficult to cure because the most effected way to cure the child and training about speech begins and end with child family not in hearing and speech training center.

And finely about the relationship between among Predicted (Demographic) Characteristics Variables and Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay, There is a significant effect between Demographic Characteristics of Parents' and child with Attitude of Parents' toward Speech Delay among Children Under 5-Years. and that is mean the parents of child has an effect on the child health status.

Recommendations

collaborating of hospitals with the Ministry of Education to provide school nurses and SLPs who have had professional training in speech delay to work there, as there are no school nurses in Iraqi schools.

To promote public awareness and change attitudes around speech delay, mass media and television should be used to educate the community at large group, not only training center team, about the condition.

Teachers and students may benefit from expanding the range of speech and hearing treatment options.

Collaborating with the Ministry of Education to inform instructors about speech and

language impairments, at the very least through the use of informational flyers and posters.

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