Social validity of the COCP programme for youngsters with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities (PIMD)

Margriet Heim
Communicative Development of nonspeaking individuals and their Communication Partners
COCPvg

Adapted version of COCP for children and adults with PIMD

two studies

1. longitudinal effect study
2. evaluation of the implementation and social validity
Overview

- COCP intervention programme
- adaptations in COCPvg
- evaluation study
  ➔ design and method
  ➔ results
  ➔ conclusion
Project team

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Main goal COCP

Learn to communicate in daily social interaction situations

- effectively
- efficiently
- social acceptable
What is needed?

Communication partners
- recognise communicative signals
- create opportunities for the client to communicate

Clients
- have access to appropriate communication modes and devices
Organisational framework

- parents
- grandparents
- neighbours/friends
- family
- babysitter

communication group

intervention team:
- special educationalist
- speech therapist
- client caretaker

- caretakers
- teachers
- assistants
- therapists
COCP intervention cycle

Assessment
- Step 1 Background information
- Step 2 Client assessment
- Step 3 Observation interaction

Implementation
- Step 6 Intervention

Goal & plan
- Step 4 Goal setting
- Step 5 Intervention plan

Evaluation
- Step 7 Evaluation

Step 1 Background information

ISAAC2010 / Heim & Veen
Basic procedures COCP

- group meetings
- individual intervention plans
- coaching communication partners based on video recordings
Central issues COCP

Communication partners
- facilitating strategies

Clients
- communicative functions
- communication modes
Partner strategies

1. structure environment
2. follow child’s lead
3. create shared focus
4. provide opportunities
5. expect communication
6. pace interaction (pause)
7. provide models
8. proper language input
9. prompt
10. reward
Adaptations COCP 1

- distinction between *expression* of feelings and symbolic *formulation* of feelings
  - extra communicative function
- more detailed differentiation of non symbolic modes
Communicative functions

1. attention to partner
2. expression of feelings
3. indication interrupted activity
4. turn taking
5. acceptance
6. protest / rejection
7. choices
8. greeting / closing
9. request assistance
10. request object/action
11. request attention
12. answering yes/no
13. commenting
14. request information
15. formulating feelings
16. joking & pretending
Communication modes

1. body posture
2. body movement
3. facial expression
4. looking behaviour / eye gaze
5. actions
6. pointing
7. gestures / signs
8. use of voice
9. sound devices
10. speech
11. use of objects
12. photographes
13. pictures / drawings
14. graphic symbols
Adaptations COCP 2

- personal attendant participates in intervention team
- no direct involvement of occupational therapist
- stretched time schedule
(singing about the sheep)
Main questions

1. Is the adapted version of COCP feasible in the Dutch care system for people with PIMD?

2. What is the judgement of communication partners and professionals about the adapted COCP programme?
Participants

- 9 youngsters with PIMD
- 50 communication partners from the social networks
- 20 members intervention teams
  ➔ psychologists, educationalists, speech/language pathologists, personal attendants
Instruments

- document analysis
- 2 questionnaires
- Delphi conference with members intervention teams
Feasibility of COCP

To what extend did the interdisciplinary intervention teams carry out the programme according to the protocol?

- extensive analysis of all intervention files (forms, reports, etc)
Implementation according to protocol?

n = 153 activities completed (of 185 prescribed)

by protocol  documented  on time

0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

not partially entirely

n = 153
Social validity 1

What are the opinions of the communication partners within the social network about the process and the outcome of the COCP programme?
Judgment communication partners

more insight 96 %
less problems 72 %
satisfied about:
  communication system 70 %
group meetings 84 %
goal and plan 94 %
coaching and support 94 %
Social validity 2

What are the opinions of the team members about goals, procedures and outcomes of the COCP programme?
# Mean judgment team members

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Central issues</th>
<th>importance</th>
<th>guidelines</th>
<th>materials</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>communicative functions</td>
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<td>communication modes</td>
<td>8,7</td>
<td>7,8</td>
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<td>partner strategies</td>
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<td>group meetings</td>
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<td>7,9</td>
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<td>communication plan</td>
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<td>inidividual coaching</td>
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<td><strong>Organisational framework</strong></td>
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<td>interdisciplinary intervention teams</td>
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<td>communication group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Observed changes in partner’s interaction style</td>
<td>100 %</td>
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<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>improved communication client</td>
<td>79 %</td>
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<td>intervention goal is reached</td>
<td>85 %</td>
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<td>improved quality of life</td>
<td>85 %</td>
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<td>spin-off effects in peer group day centre</td>
<td>52 %</td>
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Success factors 1

outcome Delphi conference:

- motivated and actively involved social network
- close cooperation between the members of the intervention team
- team members have a close enough relationship with the client
Success factors 2

- sufficient flexibility
- sufficient time and facilities
- commitment among professionals and management
Conclusion

the adapted COCPvg programme is:

- feasible and practical in Dutch organisations for people with disabilities
- appreciated by the social network
- appreciated by the professionals
Final project outcomes

- fine tuning guidelines COCPvg
- quick start guide
- proposal for implementation in other organisations
- proposal for team training
- proposal for coaching new team members
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