

Department of
Rehabilitation Sciences
Faculty of Health Sciences

Bachelor's Thesis

THE COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE PROFILE OF AN ADOLESCENT GIRL FOLLOWING SURGERY FOR A BENIGN FRONTAL-PARIETAL TUMOR

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ABSTRACT

Background: A neoplastic and abnormal growth of cells in the brain is defined as

brain tumor/lesion/neoplasia. Damage to the frontal and parietal lobes can cause many

dysfunctions, hence there is a need for Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) in the

presence of cognitive communication deficits.

Aim: To evaluate communication and language functions in an adolescent girl

following surgery for a Benign Frontal-Parietal Tumor (BFPT).

Method: A single case-study design was used. Assessment of language functions

included speech and reading samples, administration of speech and language

diagnostic tools and the completion of relevant questionnaires by the participant and

her parents.

Results: The results revealed that the participant had intact content and use of

language, speech and reading flow and fluency and theory of mind. Deficits were

identified in executive functions and production of metaphors. Also, after the surgery

C.C. felt more mental fatigue/tiredness and some changes in her personality were

noted that impacted her social life and emotions.

Conclusions: BFPT affected communication and language domains as well as the

participant's personality and emotions. It is argued that some of the functions were

intact due to brain plasticity and SLT. Nevertheless, damage to the area caused

difficulties mainly in cognition, personality and mental fatigue. Overall, SLT service

provision for individual with FPBT during the first months after surgery benefits all

aspects of life

Keywords: benign frontal-parietal tumor, adolescent benign tumor survivors,

language, cognition

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