

REASONS OF INCONSISTENT HEARING AID USAGE AMONG THE HEARING IMPAIRED STUDENTS AT SPECIAL SCHOOLS IN KUALA LUMPUR

Hanita Hashim

This study was done to find out the usage of hearing aid among special school students age 7 to 14 years. 89 students, 89 parents, and 48 teachers at special schools in Kuala Lumpur and Shah Alam were included in this study. Data were collected using three sets of questionnaires each for the students, parents, and teachers. The data collected for hearing aids users and non-users were analysed according to the severity of hearing loss, condition of hearing aid, knowledge on hearing loss and hearing aid, parent's financial status, and communication mode. Reasons of inconsistent hearing aid usage given by parents and teachers were also recorded. Data was analysed using SPSS 8.0 For Windows 98. Mann-Whitney U Test and Kruskal-Wallis Test were used to find the significance differences between Student's groups and reasons of inconsistent hearing aid usage. The result shows that 65.2% (58) of the students were inconsistent hearing aid users. Statistically, there were significant differences between student's groups (consistent, inconsistent, and non-hearing aid users) from the aspect of condition of hearing aid, knowledge on hearing loss and hearing aid, attitude toward hearing aid, parent's financial status, and communication mode.

Hashim, H. 2001. Reasons of Inconsistent Hearing Aid Usage Among the Hearing Impaired Students at Special Schools in Kuala Lumpur. Bachelor of Audiology Thesis. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.