PERCEPTION OF NASALITY BETWEEN DIFFERENT LISTENER

Siti Fatimah Adnan

This study assessed the agreement level for nasality ratings between different raters. Raters in this study were 21 adults who represented different level of clinical experience in management of cleft lip and/or palate (CL/P). The first group were 9 speech therapists where 6 were General Speech Therapists and 3 were Specialist Speech Therapists in the management of CL/P. The second group included 6 parents of children with cleft palate and 6 teachers. 30 speech samples which included Set of Sentences in Malay were used. It represented different range of nasality from normal to severely hypernasal. Severity rating scale from Universal Parameter was used. Results revealed that there is a significant difference in nasality rating between different groups. Raters in experienced group can produce more consistent rating compared to non-experienced group. However, level of agreement between experienced rater did not achieve high level for each group.