

NORM FOR MALAY ADAPTED COMMUNICATIVE DEVELOPMENT INVENTORY – WORD AND GESTURES FOR 12 AND 18 MONTHS OLD MALAY INFANTS

Thow Mei Kuen

This study was conducted to compare the differences between 12- and 18-months-old infants and describe the common phrases, gestures, word comprehension and expression in the early communicative skills for thirty Malay-speaking infants aged 12 months and thirty-six Malay-speaking infants aged 18 months. The McArthur Developmental Communicative Inventory – Words and Gestures was adapted to Malay culturally and linguistically. Data was collected through parental reports using the cross-sectional design study. The differences in communicative development related to age was significant. The developmental trends of common phrases, gestures, word comprehension and expression in the early communicative skills were similar to those found in the English, Swedish, and Spanish studies where each of the scales development is parallel to each other. The correlation between vocabulary comprehension and vocabulary production; or vocabulary comprehension and gesture; or vocabulary production and gesture was significant. The associations remained significant when age or age and the other scale were partialled out. This was in contrast with both the Swedish (Eriksson & Berglund, 1999) and English (Fenson et al. 1994) study.

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