

[Dialog] Novel prefrontal synthesis intervention improves language in children with autism

December 23 2020, by Dr. Andrey Vyshedskiy

ImagiRation, a startup with links to MIT, Harvard, and Boston University, has developed a highly innovative adaptive language therapy application for children with autism, Mental Imagery Therapy for Autism (MITA).

The CDC estimates that one in 54 children is affected by autism, a neurological disorder that disrupts early development in cognition and

communication, leading to impairment in cognitive and social functions and difficulty in acquiring new adaptive behaviors. Up to 70% of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) experience language difficulties.

There is a broad scientific consensus that early and intensive language therapy has the greatest promise of significantly improving outcomes. However, the availability, quality and general funding for early intervention programs is often lacking, leaving newly diagnosed children without adequate and sufficient therapy during the most critical early period of their development.

Novel intervention improves language

Over the last decade, ImagiRation has developed a highly innovative adaptive language therapy application for children with ASD, called Mental Imagery Therapy for Autism (MITA). In the manuscript published in the journal *Healthcare*, ImagiRation reports the result of a three-year clinical study of 6,454 ASD children ages two to 12 years. Children who engaged with MITA showed 2.2-fold greater language improvement than children with similar initial evaluations. This difference was statistically significant (p

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