

Editorial/Editorial

In this issue of CoDAS, we publish three systematic reviews; one brief communication; two articles on audiology, voice, and orofacial motricity; three articles on language; and one case report on dysphagia.

The first systematic review by **Corona** and **Rabelo** found high prevalence of auditory and vestibular dysfunctions among patients with systemic sclerosis, and emphasizes the importance of conducting new investigations for early diagnosis and to provide subsidies to professionals who work with these patients. The systematic review by **Gomes, Etges, Scheeren,** and **Barbosa** verified that screening tools for dysphagia are very heterogeneous, and were developed for different groups, to identify patients with deglutition disorders. The last systematic review is related to risk factors for the proper development of oral language among children. It is presented by **Gurgel, Vidor, Joly,** and **Reppold**, who identified the need for more controlled randomized clinical trials involving the verification of risk factors for language and for more studies involving older male participants.

The brief communication by **Scarmagnani, Oliveira, Fukushiro, Salgado, Trindade,** and **Yamashita** about the impact of inter-judge agreement in the perceptual judgment on nasality compared two logistic regression models to predict velopharyngeal closure. There was no difference between models; however, the importance of agreement between different judges stands out, when using subjective parameters of speech evaluation, in comparison to an instrumental assessment. The authors suggest that it is necessary to practice and use calibration for the reliability of the auditory perceptual assessment of speech.

The first article on audiology, by **Rabelo, Santos, Oliveira,** and **Magalhães**, associated the acoustic parameters of classrooms with the performance of students in a speech intelligibility test. The conclusion was that acoustic parameters directly influence speech intelligibility and that noise decreases the comprehension of oral message. **Durante, Wieselberg, Carvalho, Costa, Pucci, Gudayol,** and **Almeida** studied the cortical auditory evoked potential and its agreement with the psychoacoustic speech sounds, as well as the latency of components P1, N1, and P2 among patients with hearing impairment wearing a hearing aid device or not. Potential was higher with the use of a hearing-aid device and was 91% in agreement with the psychoacoustic perception of the speech sign, also with the hearing-aid device. In the analysis of latency measurements of components P1, N1, and P2, it was possible to observe a reduction, both with the increasing intensity of the signal and with the use of a hearing-aid device.

In the first article on voice, **Silverio, Siqueira, Lauris,** and **Brasolotto** studied musculoskeletal pain among women with and without dysphonia, and found higher prevalence and intensity of pain among those with dysphonia, which reveals that pain can be related to functional and organofunctional dysphonia among women. Another article, by **Lopes, Cavalcante,** and **Costa**, investigated the correlation between acoustic and perceptual measurements, concluding that the shimmer, the Glottal-to-Noise Excitation Ratio (GNE), and F_0 can be used to detect roughness, breathiness, and strain, respectively, and that the mean F_0 differentiates rough, breathy, and strained voices, with rough voices more severe.

The first article on orofacial motricity, by **Ries, Graciosa, Medeiros, Pacheco, Fassicolo, Graefling,** and **Degan**, analyzed the effect of pain on craniomandibular and cervical regions among individuals with temporomandibular disorder (TMD) and its effect on the bilateral activation of the anterior temporalis (AT) and masseter (MA) muscles during the masticatory cycle. It was shown that the activities of AT muscles are more asymmetric in individuals with TMD, and that nociceptive stimuli of the craniomandibular region can influence the increase in asymmetry of the activation of this muscle. **Garcia, Marino, Pegoraro-Krook, Guerra, Lauris,** and **Dutka** obtained nasalance measurements during the production of compensatory articulation (CA), comparing nasalance between groups with and without hypernasality and with and without CA, accounting for 553 analyzed samples, gathered in four groups, according to auditory-perceptual judgment. The authors found nasalance values significantly higher in the production of pharyngeal fricative.

The article on language, by **Misquiatti, Brito, Olivati, Santos,** and **Fernandes**, compared the sociocognitive performance of children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorders in two therapeutic environments: common room and room with specific ambiance. There was no statistical significance in the sociocognitive

performance, and the creation of preestablished physical environments or specific material should not be considered to be essential for language therapy. The second article in this field, by **Silagi, Romero, Mansur, and Radanovic**, verified the impact of age and education on the inference comprehension during reading among normal individuals, concluding that age can influence the inference comprehension due to attention-related and executive function difficulties. There was a strong effect of schooling due to the interaction of inferential skills with several cognitive functions. The last article on language, by **Andrade, Cunha, Juste, Ritto, and Almeida**, verified that people who stutter believe they can be cured, and, despite undergoing treatments, no significant improvement was observed. The study did not focus on the type of therapy; however, the results indicated that the establishment of components that contribute with an efficient treatment for stuttering is controversial.

The article on dysphagia, by **Rossi, Buhler, Ventura, Otoch, and Limongi**, reports the case of laryngeal cleft resulting from congenital malformation involving the communication between the esophagus and the laryngo-tracheal complex. After diagnosis, the intervention conduct was to thicken the milk formula, and the neonate was discharged from the hospital with exclusive oral diet. Afterwards, eight appointments were conducted in an outpatient clinic with the main objective of reintroducing thin liquids. The patient was discharged with general diet.

This year, we were able to carry out an old project of the editors: identifying and recognizing the best studies published by CoDAS, in the previous year. To do so, we conducted an extensive election process, which included the participation of a large number of people involved with CoDAS, using the strategy of group decision. First, we asked the members of the editorial board to indicate, among the studies published in 2013, the ones that stood out due to subject excellence, control of experiment design, and obtained conclusions. Some people indicated only one study; others, two or three. Based on this list, the scientific editors categorized the most voted ones and reached a list of 22 articles. Then, they were sent to the executive editors, who selected the top 10. At that time, they excluded the ones that had been written by any of the scientific or executive editors. This list of 10 studies was sent to the associated editors, and they were asked to point out the three best ones. Since there was a tie, four studies received the Certificate CODAS 2013, during the Brazilian Speech Language Pathology and Audiology Congress.

They are alphabetically listed by the surname of the first author:

1. Alvarenga, Araújo, Melo, Martinez, and Bevilacqua
<http://www.scielo.br/pdf/codas/v25n1/v25n1a04.pdf>
2. Martins, Fontenele, Câmara, and Sartorato
<http://www.scielo.br/pdf/codas/v25n3/06.pdf>
3. Rodrigues and Befi-Lopes
http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S2317-17822013000500422&lng=en&nrm=iso
4. Wertzner, Pagan-Neves, Alves, and Barrozo
<http://www.scielo.br/pdf/codas/v25n1/v25n1a10.pdf>

We congratulate the authors and wish these studies can be mentioned constantly. We know about the difficulties of our postgraduate programs, and we are aware of the hard path Brazilian researchers have to go through. Being recognized by the peers is an incomparable honor!

The indication of the best studies by a group of experienced and renowned researchers stands out and recognizes the quality of Brazilian scientific production in the Speech-Language field. This was the first time we had the conditions to conduct such an action, which has been discussed for a few years in the publications of SBFa. This was mainly made possible because of the priceless contribution of the associated editors, who have dedicated their experience, talent, and knowledge by donating their time and work to SBFa. This was our first attempt in this sense, and certainly there is room for changes and improvement. Please send us suggestions as to how to improve this process for the years to come.

*Mara Behlau
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Scientific editors*