

CHAPTER 17: NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS

KEY TERMS

Accessibility strategies

Programmes that extend the rights of individuals with intellectual disabilities to be educated according to their needs in mainstream schools.

Altered auditory feedback (AAF)

A form of treatment for stuttering in which delayed auditory feedback or a change in frequency of the voice is given to clients when they are speaking.

Amniocentesis

A procedure which involves extracting and analysing the pregnant mother's amniotic fluid used prenatally in identifying Down syndrome in high-risk parents.

Anoxia

A perinatal cause of intellectual disability, being a significant period without oxygen that occurs during or immediately after delivery.

Applied behaviour analysis

Applying the principles of learning theory (particularly operant conditioning) to the assessment and treatment of individuals suffering psychopathology.

Asperger's syndrome

Severe and sustained impairment in social interaction, and the development of restricted, repetitive patterns of behaviour, interests and activities.

Autistic disorder

Abnormally impaired development in social interaction and communication and a restricted repertoire of activities and interests.

Autistic spectrum disorder (ASD)

An umbrella term that refers to all disorders that display autistic-style symptoms across a wide range of severity and disability.

Cerebral palsy

The main neurological birth syndrome caused by anoxia which is characterized by motor symptoms that affect the strength and coordination of movement.

Childhood disintegrative disorder (CDD)

A rare condition characterized by late onset of development and delays in language, social function and motor skills.

Childhood-onset fluency disorder (stuttering)

A problem with the fluency and time-patterning of speech which involves frequent repetitions or prolongations of sounds, pauses within words, pauses in speech, word substitutions, words produced with an excess of physical tension, and monosyllabic word repetitions.

Communication disorders

Problems with the articulation of sounds.

Congenital disorders

Disorders acquired during prenatal development prior to birth but which are not genetically inherited.

Congenital rubella syndrome (CRS)

The constellation of abnormalities caused by infection with the rubella (German measles) virus before birth. The syndrome is characterized by multiple congenital malformations (birth defects) and intellectual disability.

Cretinism

A congenital disorder resulting in slow development, intellectual disabilities and small stature.

Developmental disabilities

A broad umbrella term used, in the USA, to refer to intellectual disabilities and pervasive developmental disorders such as autism and Asperger's.

Down syndrome

A disorder caused by the presence of an extra chromosome in pair 21 and characterized by intellectual disability and distinguishing physical features.

Dyscalculia

A specific learning disability characterized by mathematical ability being substantially below norm for chronological age, intelligence and educational level.

Dyslexia

A persistent, chronic learning disability in which there are developmental deficits in spelling, reading and writing abilities.

Echolalia

The immediate imitation of words or sounds that have just been heard.

Empathizing-systematizing theory

The argument that theory of mind deficits may help to explain many of the social and communication difficulties experienced by individuals with autistic spectrum disorder.

Executive functions

Cognitive skills that involve problem-solving, planning and engaging in goal-directed behaviour.

Fetal alcohol syndrome

Physiological risk associated with heavy drinking in women, in which heavy drinking by a mother during pregnancy can cause physical and psychological abnormalities in the child.

Fragile X syndrome

A chromosomal abnormality that causes intellectual disability where the X chromosome appears to show physical weaknesses and may be bent or broken.

Functional Analysis ?**Haloperidol**

An antipsychotic medication most commonly used in the treatment of autism.

Inclusion

Strategies intended to teach high functioning individuals self-help strategies, social and living skills, and self-management that are designed to help the individual function more effectively in society.

Intellectual disabilities

A modern term replacing mental retardation to describe the more severe and general learning disabilities.

Language disorder

A disability concerned with problems in vocabulary comprehension and production.

Learning disability

An umbrella term to cover specific learning disabilities, intellectual disabilities and pervasive developmental disorders.

Maternal HIV infection

The incidence of a mother having HIV during pregnancy, leading to a likelihood that the infection will be passed on to the foetus.

Modelling

The process of demonstrating a required behaviour to clients before prompting them to imitate it.

Naltrexone

An opioid receptor antagonist which has been found to be beneficial in the control of hyperactivity and self-injurious behaviour.

Parent-implemented early intervention

Using parents as effective trainers to teach children with intellectual disabilities, basic self-help and communication skills.

Phenylketonuria (PKU)

A metabolic disorder caused by a deficiency of the liver enzyme phenylalanine 4-hydroxylase, which is necessary for the effective metabolism of the amino acid phenylalanine.

Phonological theory

The view that reading disabilities in dyslexia are caused primarily by difficulties in differentiating the elements of speech (phonemes) and associating these sounds with the letters in a written word.

Pronoun reversal

An impairment in communication in which an individual refers to himself or herself as 'he', 'she' or 'you'.

Recessive gene

A gene that must be present on both chromosomes in a pair to show outward signs of a certain characteristic.

Risperidone

A drug treatment for children with autism.

Sally-Ann false belief task

An imaginative procedure that has been used many times to assess theory of mind abilities in a range of clinical populations.

Savant syndrome

The phenomenon of extraordinary proficiency in one isolated skill in individuals with multiple cognitive disabilities. It appears to be closely linked to autistic spectrum disorder and is frequently found in Asperger's syndrome.

Shaken baby syndrome

A form of child abuse that is known to cause intellectual disability. It refers to traumatic brain injury that occurs when a baby is violently shaken.

Sheltered workshops

Settings that provide individuals with intellectual disabilities with employment tailored to their own needs and abilities.

Special educational needs (SEN)

A term used in the UK to identify those who require instruction or education tailored to their specific needs.

Specific learning disabilities

Disorders such as dyslexia and communication disabilities.

Speech sound disorder

Persistent difficulty with speech sound production that interferes with speech intelligibility or prevents verbal communication of messages.

Stuttering

A disturbance in the normal fluency and time patterning of speech that is inappropriate for the individual's age.

Supported employment

A special programme designed with a built-in support mechanism to help people with physical, mental or developmental disabilities reach and keep their customized vocational goals and objectives.

Tay-Sachs disease

A metabolic disorder caused by a recessive gene which results in an absence of the enzyme hexosaminidase A in the brain and central nervous system, eventually causing neurons to die.

Teenage mothers

In relation to intellectual disabilities, young mothers who become pregnant before 18 years of age and who are likely to have lived in deprived areas prior to giving birth, are often unmarried, live in poverty as a result of their premature motherhood, and are likely to have a significantly lower than average IQ.

Theory of Mind (TOM)

The ability to understand one's own and other people's mental states.