Implementation of "Parler-Bambin" preventive program in the multilingual and multicultural context of nurseries/daycares in Lebanon

Camille Messarraab, Christelle Maillartb
Camille.messarra@usj.edu.lb; christelle.maillart@uliege.be

a Department of Speech and Language Therapy, Saint Joseph University, Beirut, Lebanon
b Department of Speech and Language Therapy, Faculty of Psychology, Speech and Language Therapy and Education sciences, University of Liège, Belgium

Context:
Lebanon has almost 500 nurseries, marked as the country by a very important socio-economic and cultural disparity. Prevention in education and health for all children is a challenge that some national programs are currently addressing. The question of the quality of language input in daycares in this multilingual context is then logically raised.

Main objective: To gather the concerns of daycare educators and speech-language pathologists in optimizing language development and communication, in order to design an effective and targeted professional development action in the Lebanese context.

The action will be conducted on the basis of a French program for the prevention of language difficulties, which is already developed nationwide, "Parler Bambin". Kern, 2007; Zorman et al., 2011

What is the role of Speech and Language Therapist?
- Young profession, no professional legal frame
- No job profiles for SLTs in day care
- Lack of instruction about prevention in speech therapy curriculum

The role of SLTs in community-based interventions before entering school, is raised. [Law et al., 2013]

Main Outcomes

To legitimate the role of communication and language development in daycares stimulation programs to better prevent difficulties at a very young age.
To design a framework for SLT’s intervention in daycares on a inter-professional collaboration basis.

References:

Acknowledgements:
The authors would like to thank: Tracy MARTINEZ PEREZ; Sophie KERN; Lisandre BERGERON; Edith KOUBA HREICH; Fatima HALLAJ; Jessy KHOURY; Rayya FRANCIS; the SLT students Rochana MRouE; Nour SALBA; Reff HASSANE
This project is supported by the Research Council of Saint Joseph University of Beirut – Lebanon