

## **Profile of the Morph-syntactic Development in Spanish Speakers Deaf Children with an Early Employment of Hearing-aid or Cochlear Implant**

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**Research Question:** Displaying results about the morph-syntactic development in Spanish speakers deaf children with an early employment of hearing-aid or cochlear implant. This data will allow us to compare the resultant profile with that obtained dealing with other populations included in the symposium.

**Methods:** In our research have taken part 30 severe or profound hearing-loss children and teenagers, bilateral and pre-speech deafness, without any other associated handicap, and employing hearing-aid or cochlear implant at least since aged 4. The age of our participants is ranged from 6 to 13. We have employed the test called “Formulación de oraciones” (Formulation of sentences), taken from the Spanish edition of the CELF-4 by Semel, Wiig and Secord (2006), being the age-range 5 through 21 years. The participant formulates a sentence using an orally presented target word or phrase with a stimulus picture as a reference. It is analyzed:

- a) How precise, from a semantic and syntactic point of view, is the sentence brought about when the target word or phrase is employed, by a 3-point scoring scale (2,1,0).The score allows us to obtain an equivalent age.
- b) Which target words or phrases cause grammatical mistake.
- c) How many right sentences are formulated. The MLU of this sentences.
- d) Which kind of error (replacements, additions, those related to syntactic agreement or verbal flexion, etc.) or omission can be found in a non-grammatical sentence.

**Results and conclusion:** The equivalent age of most of participants is lower than their chronological one. The target words or phrases provoking more mistakes are those in which subordinate clauses are requested. Referred to the MLU, it is clearly observed that most of participants are below their age. The most frequent errors are those related to verbal flexion and syntactic agreement, as well as cases of omission and disorder of words in the formulation of complex sentences.