

The effectiveness of individualized morphosyntactic target identification and explicit intervention using the SHAPE CODING™ system for children with Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) and the impact of within-session dosage.

In this talk, I will introduce the SHAPE CODING™ system and present the findings of a recent multiple baseline study investigating its effectiveness in eight children with DLD aged 8;0-10;10 who received ten hours of highly individualized intervention for morphosyntax delivered in 30-minute individual sessions once per week for 20 weeks at three different dosages.

Scores on probe tests post-intervention were significantly higher than pre-intervention ($d=1.6$) and progress during the intervention phase was highly significant. One participant showed significantly faster progress with intervention while one (with the lowest attention) made little progress. All three within-session dosages showed very similar rates of progress, with the odds of a correct response increasing by 3.9% for each teaching episode. The targets that were achieved required an average of 40-60 teaching episodes.

With the exception of one participant, the individualized intervention using the SHAPE CODING™ system was highly effective and efficient. The cumulative number of teaching episodes per target provided across sessions appeared to be key.