AUMENTO DA COMUNICAÇÃO VERBAL ENTRE PACIENTES COM DOENÇA DE ALZHEIMER E SEUS CUIDADORES: ESTRATEGIAS LINGUISTICAS E SOCIAIS

Renné P. Alegria

Contato com o autor: realegrias@usp.br

Cláudia C. M. Santana,²,Célia P.Gallo², Mirian G. Bolso,²; Cássio M. C. Bottino,²; Maria Inês, MI¹

Orientador: Maria Inês Nogueira

Programa de Pós-graduação: Neurociência e Comportamento

Nível do trabalho: doutorado

[1]Neurociências e Comportamento, Instituto de Psicologia, Universidade de São Paulo,[2]PROTER- Programa Terceira Idade, Instituto de Psiquiatria/Hospital das Clínicas Faculdade de Medicina, Universidade de São Paulo

Background::Communication between Alzheimer's disease patients and caregivers can be enhanced using some linguistic and social strategies. To increase and improve verbal communication, It is recommended to have activity-based approaches, linguistic and memory aids during the interaction between patients and caregivers. The interventions to improve verbal communication are shown to be effective until patients get severe stage. **Objective**: to enhance verbal communication between patients and caregivers. **Methods:**We analyzed, compared and did interventions with the discourse performance of twenty three Alzheimer's disease patients and twenty three healthy controls. The patients were 10 men and thirteen women aged 72 and older, and the controls were eight male and fifteen female, aged 65 and older. All patients were from PROTER- Old Age Program - ambulatory care of the Institute of Psychiatry of the School of Medicine of the University of São Paulo. The patients and controls had 4 to 26 years of schooling; their Mini Mental State Exam (MMSE) scores 13 to 30. Moreover, the controls were also assessed with SRQ-20- Self reporting Questionnaire. Each discourse of patients and controls was recorded during 20 minutes and analyzed by the computational tool Stablex, based on mathematical-statistical-computer assisted program which mainly distinguish the results of preferential, basic and differential vocabulary in order to verify the frequency of words in the discourses. After that, we

compared the results and verify the abstract, concrete and the most used words the AD patients conveyed to use in the social interactions.

Results: The results of the frequency analysis of the words in the discourses showed that using linguistic strategies can be effective to enhance and improve communication between Alzheimer's disease patients and caregivers. On the other hand, using the words that are more frequent can be effective tools to socialize.

Conclusion: It is required to do more studies for the effectiveness of improvement and increasing verbal communication between Alzheimer's disease patients and caregivers.

Agência Financiadora: CAPES

Key-word: Alzheimer's Disease, Communication. Caregivers.