

COORDINATING RESOURCES FOR EI PROFESSIONALS

MITIGATING PROXIMAL AND DISTAL EFFECTS OF LANGUAGE DEPRIVATION

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DEFINTION

Language deprivation, defined as the lack of access to developmentally appropriate language during critical periods of development, has significant proximal and distal consequences. Studies, such as those conducted by Sanjay Gulati and Poorna Kushalnagar, have shown a correlation between language deprivation and later-life medical and mental health challenges for Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals.

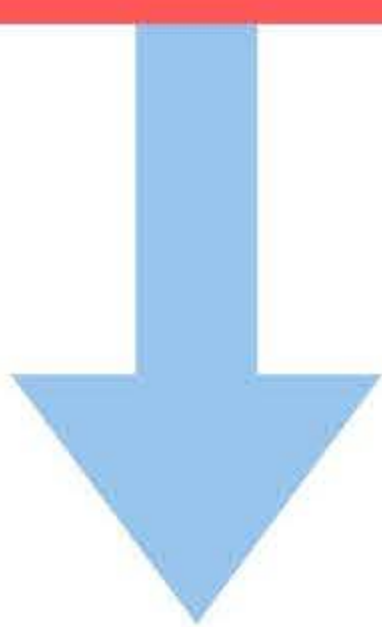
GULATI'S TEN POINTS

1. Linguistic Deficits
2. Concepts of Time
3. Cause and Effect
4. Theory of Mind
5. Abstract Concepts
6. Difficulty Learning
7. Emotional Regulation
8. Relationship Boundaries
9. Low Fund of Information
10. Acting out feelings

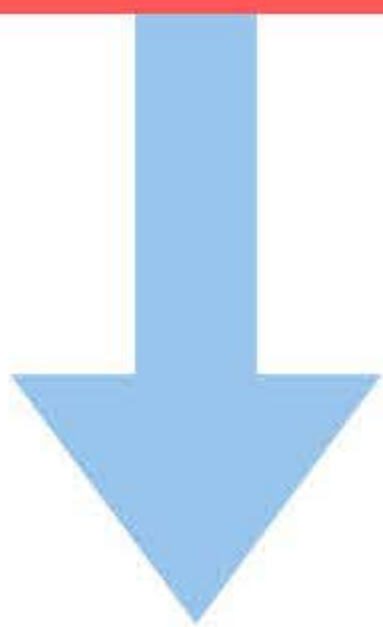
KUSHALNAGAR ET AL. CONCLUSIONS

**LANGUAGE
DEPRIVATION**

**COMMUNICATION
NEGLECT**



**DIABETES
HYPERTENSION
HEART CONDITIONS**



**LUNG DISEASE
DEPRESSION
ANXIETY DISORDER**

EFFECTS OF LANGUAGE DEPRIVATION

Proximal Effects: Immediate consequences of limited language exposure include cognitive delays, social-emotional challenges, and other developmental delays.

Distal Effects: Language deprivation has long-term impacts on development, including academic achievement, mental health, and social integration.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROVIDERS

- Provide a language-rich, signed or spoken, environment as soon as a baby is born. "The brain does not discriminate between spoken and signed languages" (Laura Ann Pettitio).
- Connect with a Speech Language Therapist trained to work with DHH children or a Deaf Educator Interventionist.

CONCLUSION

States should encourage a single point of entry system so that DHH infants and toddlers and their families can have early access to information about the short-term and long-term effects of Language Deprivation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUT THIS VIDEO FROM THE NYLE DIMARCO FOUNDATION: WHAT IS LANGUAGE DEPRIVATION?

REFERENCES

HALL, WYATTE C ET AL. "LANGUAGE DEPRIVATION SYNDROME: A POSSIBLE NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER WITH SOCIOCULTURAL ORIGINS." SOCIALPSYCHIATRY AND PSYCHIATRIC EPIDEMIOLOGY VOL. 52,6 (2017): 761-776. DOI:10.1007/S00127-017-1351-7
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