

Floor time to Improve Interpersonal Communication in Adolescence with Down Syndrome

**Priskila Asa
Prof. Dr. Ediasri Toto Atmodiwigjo
Titi P. Natalia, M. Psi.**

Tarumanagara University

Abstract

This research aims to determine the outcome of the application of floor time to improve interpersonal communication in adolescence with Down Syndrome. This research has two variables, floor time as independent variable and interpersonal communication as dependent variable. Floor time is an intervention that aims to encourage children in two-way communication as well as the use of gestures and expressions of emotions to express their wishes and needs to caregiver (Greenspan & Wieder, 2006). Interpersonal communication is the communication that occurs without any intermediary media or face to face directly in the form of two-way conversation (DeVito, in Hargie & Dickson, 2004). This research used single case design ($n = 1$). Measuring instruments used in this study is six developmental milestones observation sheet. The result showed that floor time can be used to improve interpersonal communication in adolescence with Down Syndrome, by the increased communication cycle at least 10 cycles, capable of expressing joy, anger, curiosity to others by verbal and non-verbal communication as using facial expressions and body movements, as well as improving relations between the participants and other people around them, both the family and other people who just knew.

Keywords: floor time, down syndrome, adolescence, interpersonal communication