

An Analysis of Conversation Turn-Taking in a Toddler with Complete Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum

ABSTRACT

In order to participate in a conversation, individuals must have conversational turn-taking skills. Deficits in turn-taking skills occur in individuals with delays in pragmatics. Literature states that individuals with Complete Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum (ACC-C) have deficits in pragmatics. To determine if an individual with ACC-C has turn-taking skills, a toddler with ACC-C was selected for evaluation. Purposes of this study were to (1) determine if toddlers with ACC-C exhibit turn-taking skills, (2) If they do exhibit turn-taking skills, which environment elicits the most turn-taking skills: the home, the speech and language intervention session, or a community event.

To collect data regarding the subject's conversational turn-taking skills, the Language ENvironmental Analysis (LENA™) was used. The LENA™ system evaluated audio of the recordings that took place in three events. A home recording was the subject's baseline. A second recording took place during individual speech and language intervention. The third recording took place at a baseball game, which was considered a community event. The comparison of conversational turns was to fulfill the second purpose of the study. Finally, the amount of conversational turns in each event was compared to typical development in the same age group.