Standardized Assessment via Telepractice: Qualitative Review & Survey Data



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Disclosures

Financial:

Tina Eichstadt and Nancy Castilleja are employed by Pearson Clinical Assessment.
Melissa Jakubowitz is employed by PresenceLearning.

•Adrienne Wallace is employed by Pearson Connections Education.

Non-Financial:

•Tina Eichstadt, Nancy Castilleja, Melissa Jakubowitz, and Adrienne Wallace are members of SIG 18, Telepractice.



Introduction

- Pilot study to determine implications in telepractice administration of standardized assessments
- Collaboration between Pearson Clinical Assessment, Pearson Connections Education, and PresenceLearning
- Conducted between September 2012 -March 2013

Overview

- Study components
- Review of themes
- Review of videos
- Survey results
- Professional implications
- Discussion



- Qualitative description of 320 telepractice administrations of four tests:
 - Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals (CELF-4)
 - Goldman-Fristoe Test of Articulation (GFTA-2)
 - Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (PPVT-4)
 - Expressive Vocabulary Test (EVT-2)
- Video and descriptive themes review of 15 telepractice administrations
- Results of a survey of the participating SLPs

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Participant Demographics

- Referral source

 Clinical referral population from participating companies
- Age Range

 5:0 to 11:11
- Gender
 - <u>– 33% female;</u> 67% male
- Race/ethnicity (50% responding):

 62% White, 16% Hispanic, 13% Black, 3% Asian, 2% Other
- Geographic distribution

 50% CA; the remainder from FL, GA, ID, IN, MN, OK, OR, PA
- English Language Learners (75% responding)
 14 (4%)
- Free/reduced lunch status (33% responding)
 50% free/reduced lunch



Standard Score Ranges CELF-4 (Core Language Score) -38-130, mean=77 GFTA-2 -40-113, mean=87 PPVT-4 20-144, mean=93 EVT-2 -32-128, mean=93

Influencing Factors/Review Themes

- 1. Telepractice Environment (audio/video)
 - Audio: use of boom mic, background noise
 - Video: use of webcam, clear images
- 2. Test/Test Materials
 - Digital stimulus book
- 3. Client Behaviors
 - Positioning, participation
- 4. Clinician Behaviors
 - Administration, pacing, clarity
- 5. Other

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The "Good" – Positive Examples

GFTA-2 example (actual administration)

Environment

- No background noise (audio)
- Headset and boom mic for both (audio)
- Full head shot of student and SLP (video)

Test materials

- Large stimulus book

Client

- Seated and still

Clinician

- Pacing and clarity of item presentation
- Pointing to items in DSM

Other

- When sharing screen on MAC, use desktop.
- When student clicks "full screen," does not see double video.



• Environment

- Duplicate videos

- Test Materials
 - Extraneous toolbars on the digital stimulus book





Participating SLP Survey

- N=86;
 - 37 responses were received (43%)
- The goals of the survey were to:
 - Obtain feedback on what works and what doesn't when administering different types of standardized assessments.
 - Evaluate the level of confidence SLPs had in the accuracy of the results of each administration.
 - Determine future research needs in the area of assessment in telepractice.





Helpful Tips from SLPs

Talk to the parent/caregiver ahead of time

Establish a quiet setting free from distractionsUse a headset with a boom mic

Get yourself organized and prepared

- Do a practice test first
- Discontinue testing if any tech issues persist

Think about student testing needs

- Be clear on directions to students
- Give the student breaks to play a game or have a discussion

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The Question of "Equivalency" Implications

- This pilot study was NOT an equivalency study—initial and basic information only
- Legal requirements/considerations
- Publisher recommendations/constraints

Practical Considerations

- Every test is different
- Five themes/factors
- Ethics/best practice must lead decisions



