

Individual assessment of children with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities by means of event-related brain potentials

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Individual Assessment of Children with Profound Intellectual and Multiple Disabilities by Means of Event-related Brain Potentials

Marjo Brinkman

1. In children with PIMD hearing is relatively less affected as compared to vision (*this thesis*).
2. For most children with PIMD the ERP findings equal observational data. However, some of these children were seriously underestimated when only behavioural observation was taken into account (*this thesis*).
3. Due to the huge heterogeneity in children with PIMD group analyses make no sense (*this thesis*).
4. In normally developing children early cognitive processing such as auditory sensory gating matures earlier than later cognitive processing such as novelty processing (*this thesis*).
5. The new insights obtained through ERPs regarding the cognitive functioning of children with PIMD are more appreciated by their parents than by some professionals (*this thesis*).
6. Preliminary test-retest results suggest that children with PIMD do develop beyond the age of 10 years (*this thesis*).
7. The great merit of the ERP method is its capacity to assess a person's cognitive functioning despite motor and cognitive impairments.
8. Individual assessment by means of ERP measurements is not generally accepted (yet).
9. Considering the extremely complex process from egg fertilization to child birth, it is a miracle that only a relatively small percentage of children is born with birth defects.
10. Every child should be encouraged to develop its full potential, limited though it is.