

BACHELOR THESIS ABSTRACT

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Title: Pilot Testing of Usability „Action Research Arm Test (ARAT)“ in Persons after Acquired Brain Injury

Abstract:

The bachelor thesis is focused on use of the Action Research Arm Test (ARAT) tool in person after acquired brain injury. The often problem in this population may be decreased or impaired function of upper limbs, which is what the ARAT is dealing with. The aim of the thesis is assessment of the tool and its characteristics.

Theoretical part describes different types of brain injury, primarily stroke and their consequences. A chapter about grips and their pathologies follows. Grips are the dominant part of the ARAT testing. The second half of the theoretical part describes testing in occupational therapy and importance of standardised tool. The ARAT is further described in detail. Other tools for testing upper limb function, are briefly described in the conclusion.

The practical part deals with pilot testing of the ARAT with the 8 patients. Short case studies of all patients are presented and the results of the individual subtests and total score of ARAT. These results are compared with each other between the patients. In conclusion of practical part is assessment of the ARAT in predetermined areas.

Conclusion of this thesis summarises the characteristics of Action Research Arm Test and assesses its clinical usability in occupational therapy.

Key words: occupational therapy, acquired brain injury, stroke, Action Research Arm Test, testing upper limb function