

## COMPLETION REPORT

### **Evidence-Based Practice in Speech Therapist Profession: A Comparative Study between Japan and Malaysia**

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Evidence-Based Practice in Speech Therapy Profession: A Comparative Study between Japan and Malaysia

言語聴覚士のEBP(科学的根拠に基づく臨床)に関する調査：日本とマレーシアの比較

Background: Evidence-based-practice (EBP) is a three-dimensional approach to professional services in which high quality and current research evidence is integrated with practitioner expertise along with client values to inform assessment and treatment decision. Aim: This study examined the speech therapist attitudes and the use of EBP in clinical practice between two countries: Japan and Malaysia. Method: A survey that targets these scopes was developed: (1) attitudes of speech therapist towards EBP, (2) training that speech therapist had in EBP, (3) use of EBP in clinical decision making, (4) speech therapists' perceptions of barriers to EBP, and (5) training needs for speech therapists to apply EBP in clinical practice. This survey was distributed among Japan speech therapists (Japanese language) and Malaysia speech therapists (English) using online google form. Results: A total of 145 speech therapists (Japan=47, Malaysia= 98) participated in this study. The total mean score of the survey was significantly higher in the Malaysia (Mean=120.71) compared to the Japan speech therapists (Mean=107.79). The Malaysian speech therapists reported a more positive attitude towards EBP, received more EBP training, reported using more EBP in clinical decision making, faced fewer barriers to implement EBP than those of Japan speech therapists. This difference may be due to educational training on speech therapists in both countries. Both countries' speech therapists reported the necessity for EBP training to strengthen their clinical skills. Findings from this study could help the local governance and Speech Therapist association to understand the current practice and professional development needs of speech therapists in both countries. Future studies should include cross countries workshop and collaboration to discuss and implement a better EBP clinical practice in order to provide better service to patients with communication disorders.

Publication of the Results of Research Project:

Verbal Presentation (Date, Venue, Name of Conference, Title of Presentation, Presenter, etc.)

1. **Chu, SY.** (2017). Evidence-based practice in allied health: perceptions and future directions. *World Education Day 2017*, Sept 27-29, Dalian, China. (invited talk)
2. McConnell, G. & **Chu, SY.** (2017). A Comparison of Undergraduates' Perceptions about Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) in Malaysia and the United States. *American Speech-Language-Hearing Association*, November 9-11, Los Angeles. (poster presentation)

Thesis (Name of Journal and its Date, Title and Author of Thesis, etc.)

1. **Chu SY,** & McConnell, G. (2018). Translating Evidence-Based Practices to Clinical Practice: Starting in the Classroom. *International Archives of Communication Disorder*. 1(2), 1-3. DOI: 10.23937/iacod-2017/1710007

Book (Publisher and Date of the Book, Title and Author of the Book, etc.)