

Individuals with profound intellectual and multiple disabilities at work?!

Activities in special day service centers in Germany

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Outline

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Introduction

- Individuals with PIMD
- Participating in activities as essential component of quality of life
- Quality of life = interaction, experience of competence and self-determination (Sabo & Terfloth, 2011)
- Realizing work related activities for adults with PIMD
- Special day service centers in Germany

Research questions

- What are the goals and the content of the activities provided at the special day service centers?
- To what extent can the activities be classified as “high quality activities” based on the model of Sabo and Terfloth?
- To what extent can the activities be classified as “work related”?

Method

Setting:

- 4 special day service centers, 30 participants

Instrument:

- **Diary** (Zijlstra & Vlaskamp, 2005; modified),
registering all activities provided in one exemplary week and
a detailed description of one activity per day

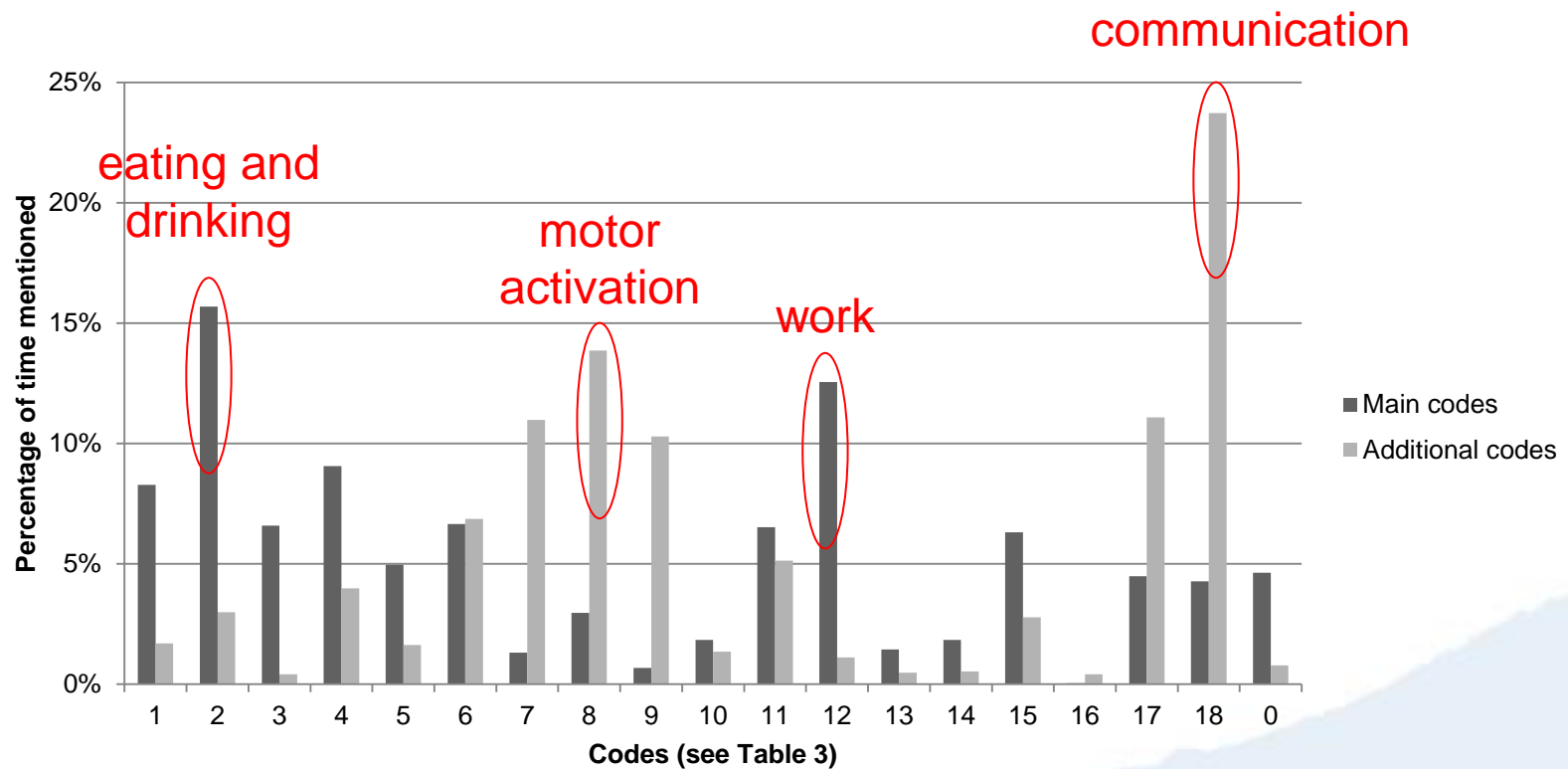
Analysis:

- Codes and goals were related to quality of life and the
concept of work

Results (1)



Results (2)



Results (3)

Combinations of goals and codes:

- Work and work related activities (96% of the activities)
- Motor activation and stimulating motor functioning and therapy (91%)
- Work or “social“ goals and communication
- Experience of self-efficacy and work or therapy

Results (4)

Quality of life (Sabo & Terfloth, 2011):

- Communication and welcome/goodbye (21%), eating and drinking (17%), educating activities (9%), and work related activities (9%)
- Self-efficacy and work (31%), communication (13%), and motor activation (8%)
- Stimulation of self-determination and “social activities“

Results (5)

Concept of work

- “work related activities” as second most mentioned code (13% of the main codes),
and “work” as the most ticked goal (27% of the main goals)

Discussion (1)

Quality of life (Sabo & Terfloth, 2011):

- eating and drinking as well as care were also seen as activities stimulating communication
- work and communication situations were used to enable individuals with PIMD to experience their competences
- more stimulation of self-determination in the future?!

Discussion (2)

Concept of work:

- in special day service centers in Germany, work related activities play a central role

High frequency of motor activation:

- multi-professional teams including educational professionals and therapists shape the daily activities in the groups

Discussion (3)

Limitations:

- small sample
- additional information about reliability and validity of the procedure is needed
- social desirability
- only perspective of the DSPs

Conclusion

- Participation in work related activities of individuals with PIMD is possible!
- Activities including communication, motor activation, and experience of self-efficacy = high quality work related activities
- Different types of special day service centers are needed, focusing on work related activities, education, and/or leisure activities

Thank you for your attention!