A Survey on the Current Status of Parent Counseling by Speech-Language Pathologists and Their Educational Needs for Professional Training

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Purpose: This study aimed to examine the current status of parent counseling in clinical speech-language rehabilitation settings and to investigate speech-language pathologists' (SLPs) perceived need for professional training in parent counseling. Based on these findings, the study sought to lay a foundation for developing specialized training programs for professionals.

Methods: A survey of 70 Level 1 and Level 2 speech-language pathologists in Seoul and Gyeonggi Province was conducted and the collected data analyzed using both quantitative and qualitative methods.

Results: Speech-language pathologists with less than five years of experience reported the greatest difficulty in adjusting parental expectations, while only a small percentage found parents' emotional responses challenging. In contrast, those with five or more years of experience reported that the most difficult aspect was coordinating home-based interventions, but a higher proportion also noted challenges with parental emotional responses. In terms of preferred training formats, case-based learning involving real session examples was the most favored. Regarding training content, less experienced speech-language pathologists preferred theoretical knowledge such as understanding and intervention for developmental disorders, whereas more experienced speech-language pathologists prioritized practical knowledge, including communication and counseling with parents and behavior management strategies.

Conclusions: Professional training programs in parent counseling for speech-language pathologists should be tailored to include a range of content from theoretical foundations to practical applications, depending on the clinician's level of experience.

Keywords: Parent counseling, professional training, educational needs of SLPs, parent training, survey research

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1. 서론

언어재활이란 언어습득 과정이나 언어처리 과정의 결함으로 인하여 다른 사람과 원활한 의사소통을 하기 어려운 사람들에게 전문적인 진단과 훈련을 실시하는 일련의 행위를 뜻하며, 이와 관련하여 전문적인 교육을 받고 일정한 자격 요건을 충족한 전문가를 언어재활사라고 한다(Shin & Park, 2021). 언어재활사는 의사소통 어려움의 원인과 증상을 알아내기 위해 언어평가를 실시하며 평가 결과를 바탕으로 적합한 중재 계획을 세운 후 이를 따르는 중재를 통해 언어재활 대상자가 의사소통 능력을 갖출 수 있도록돕는다(Kim et al., 2014; Shim et al., 2010).

언어재활사들이 행하는 언어재활은 직접적인 언어재활뿐만 아니

라 보호자를 위한 언어 관련 정보 제공, 언어 장애로 야기되는 정서적 어려움의 이해와 공감에 대한 상담까지 포함된다고 볼 수 있다(Lee, 2014). 특히 언어발달의 어려움으로 인해 의사소통 문제를 겪는 아동 대상 언어재활의 경우 부모가 아동의 보호와 양육, 교육 등에 대한 인식과 수행에 있어 가장 중요한 역할을 하기 때문에 이들과의 상담을 언어재활의 일환으로 포함시키는 것은 필수적이다(ASHA, 2010; Jang & Eom, 2019; Shim, 2012).

또한 선행 연구에 따르면 아동 부모와 언어재활사의 효율적인 상담은 언어재활 효과에도 긍정적인 영향을 줄 수 있는 것으로 밝혀졌는데 대상자와의 교감, 긍정적 기대, 심리/정서적 문제 해결이효과적인 치료와 정적인 상관 관계가 있는 것으로 보고되었다 (Ebert & Kohnert, 2010; Ko, 2014; Kim, 2012; Lee, 2014).

언어재활사는 상담을 통하여 언어재활 대상 아동에 대한 부모의 주호소와 전반적인 발달 정보를 지속적으로 확인할 수 있으며 언 어재활 현장과 가정의 유기적인 연결을 도울 수 있다. 그리고 이 러한 유기적 관계는 아동의 언어 능력 증진은 물론이고 보호자의

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