

## **OTO, ACCEPTABILITY AND PERCEIVED EFFECTIVENESS OF DEEP STIMULATION**

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Particularities of sensorial treatment are significantly present in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), which leads to repercussions on various daily life aspects for concerned people and their relatives. The support methods aiming at bettering this treatment are in permanent evolution. In psychomotricity the deep pressure tools exist under different forms and are known to produce positive effects. However, there are very few proofs of their effectiveness, their acceptability and considering the point of view of people with ASD as well as their relatives. With this in mind, we have organized three discussion groups between April and May 2023, bringing together 4 children, 7 health professionals and 4 parents of children with ASD. Our goal was to understand the impact of sensorial particularities on their lives, as well as the use of sensorial regulation tools, especially those with deep pressure. We have adopted an inductive thematic approach to analyze the exchanges in the discussion. Common points concerning the challenges linked to the support path, to the acceptability and to the implementation of these tools have been raised during the discussions with adults. Although our analysis is not yet finalized, our results show the importance to adopt an approach centered on the user during the implementation of the tool. Our study is not an efficacy study, but it has showed that perceived effectiveness and acceptability are important aspects according to participants. Moreover, we have noted that it is possible to include children with ASD in the discussion groups.

This work is only a starting point, but it opens perspectives for participatory research in the field of ASD.

The main evaluation criteria for an efficacy study have also been validated in a focus group.