



The construction of the Turkish Language Screening Instrument 'SNEL'

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Content

- The Amsterdam Public Health Care Service, Child Health Care
- Role of Public Health Care Professionals in the detection of speech & language problems
- The making of SNEL-TU



Some numbers

- 16.409.979 inhabitants
- 1 738 452 from Non-Western origin (1th and 2nd generation)
- 368 600 from Turkish origin
- 53% 1st generation



Amsterdam





Amsterdam Public Health Care





Child Health Care



- 26 locations across the city
- Teams: physicians, nurses, receptionists, SLT.
- Between 0-18 months: 12 visits (nutricion, vaccinations, neonatal hearing screening, lenght, weight, development, risk factors)
- **Between 2-4 years: 3 visits (more emphasis on development)**
- Between 5-12 years: 4 visits (vaccinations and socio-psychological issues)

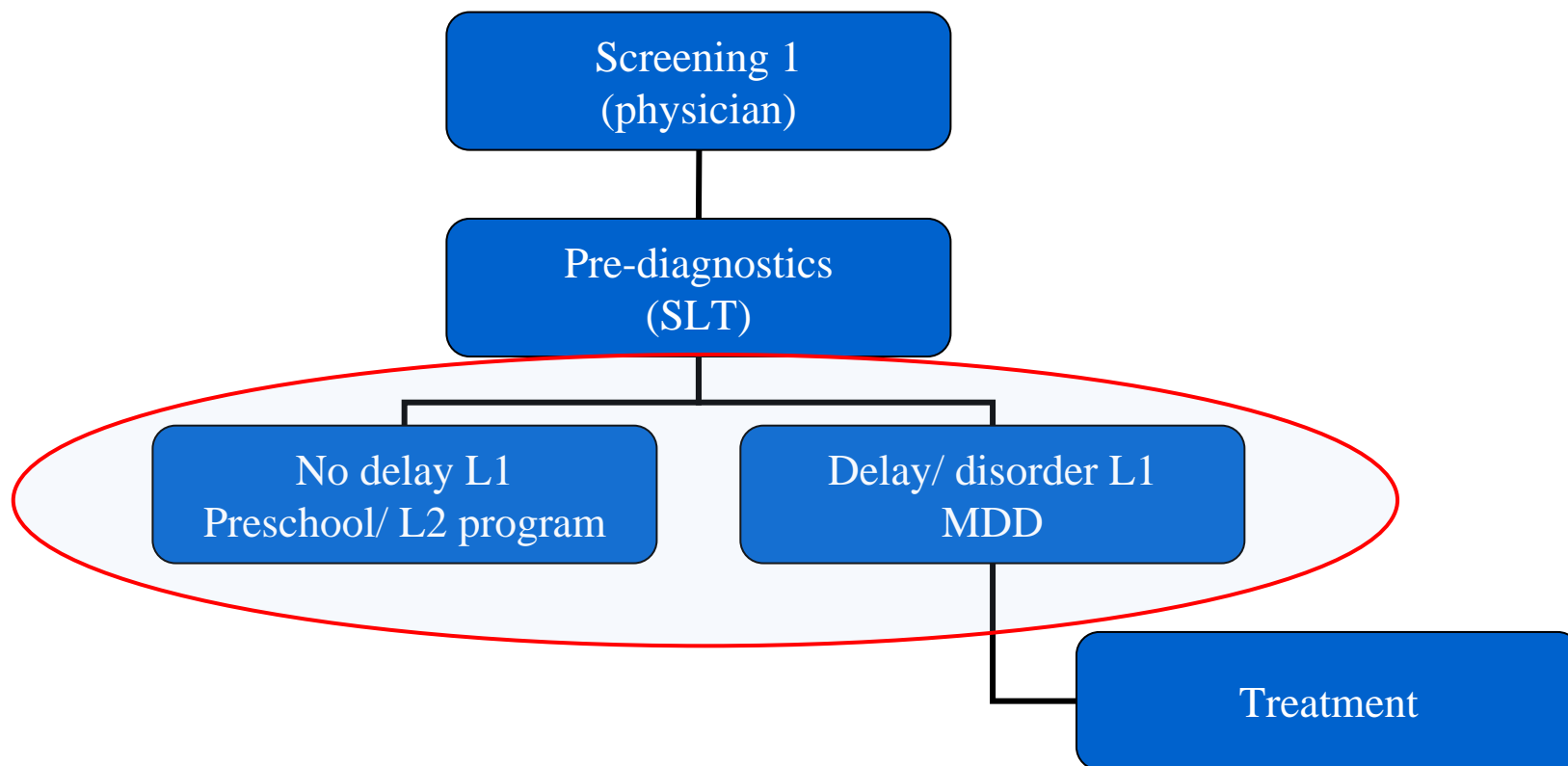


Child Health Care

- 20.000 children age 2-4 under care
- 176 nationalities (lots of languages)
- SLI prevalence in literature 2.4 – 5%
- Based on expert SLT 13% with the age of 5 years (including all speech and language disorders)
- Between 2-4 years: at least 1000 children with possible speech/ language development problems



Screening/ diagnostic procedure age 2-4





Children with a Turkish background

- 8% = 1600 children
 - Most of them bilingual (Dutch language on preschool from age 2.5 or 4 years old, monolingual 0-2 years)
 - 80 children with possible speech language disorders
-
- But.....
 - How to detect them???



Important issues L1 versus L2

- Multilingualism is not a risk factor
- Early intervention is necessary
- What instruments do we have?

- Questions to be asked:
 - Is the language delay in L2:
 1. due to a language development disorder or delay in L1?
 2. or due to language delay caused by a lack of L2 exposure?







What do we know?



- Milestones seem to be good indicators of language development problems (Stromswold 2000, Hall 1997)
- All language experts say: milestones are universal (but I have some doubts...!)
- Luinge e.a.: 26 milestones in literature so:
- A language screening instrument (parents questionnaire) based on milestones was born:

WAT IS TAAL?

KIND EN TAAL

STIMULEREN

TESTEN

MEER OVER TAAL

ADVIES EN HULP



Homepage

KIND EN TAAL

Introductie SNEL - De SNEL test

De SNEL test

Heeft u de Introductie SNEL gelezen? Lees deze zorgvuldig door alvorens de onderstaande test uit te voeren.

Leeftijd van uw kind in maanden:

(selecteer) ▼

Begrijpt uw kind opdrachtjes van 2 woorden?
(vb. jas aan, schoenen vast)

Ja Nee

Kan uw kind 1 of meer lichaamsdelen aanwijzen
(vb. waar zit je neus?)

Ja Nee

Zegt uw kind tenminste 10 woordjes in totaal?

Ja Nee

Begrijpt uw kind zinnetjes van 3 woorden?
(vb. in de tuin, op de stoel)

Ja Nee

Kan uw kind 2 woordjes combineren zoals 'papa boek' of 'kijk poes'?

Ja Nee

Kan uw kind zinnetjes van 3 woorden maken?
(vb. popje muts ophebben, auto in garage)

Ja Nee

Zet uw kind 3 tot 4 woorden achter elkaar?
(vb. ik koekje wil hebben, wij gaan ook zinge)

Ja Nee

Kunt u ongeveer de helft van uw kind verstaan?

Ja Nee

Vertelt uw kind wel eens spontaan een verhaaltje?
(vb. over wat uw kind die dag heeft gedaan)

Ja Nee

Kan uw kind een verhaaltje navertellen bij een aantal plaatjes?

Ja Nee

Kunt u ongeveer driekwart van uw kind verstaan?

Ja Nee

Maakt uw kind ook hele lange zinnen?
(vb. als ik later groot ben, dan wil ik graag kok worden)

Ja Nee

Kunt u bijna alles van uw kind verstaan?

Ja Nee

Praat uw kind als een volwassene qua taalgebruik vindt u?

Ja Nee

Herstart de test



But.....

- Parents who do speak Turkish are not able to understand this...
- The milestones may not be valid for the Turkish language
- The questions may not be valid for the Turkish language
- So....
- We need your help to construct SNEL all over again!
- To be continued...



What is SNEL

- SNEL is a measurement instrument, developed by the methodology of item response theory
- A calibrated scale:
- The calibration on the scale is provided by milestones in language development

Scale for language development

What is SNEL?

- For each milestone, a question is formulated.
- Parents are asked to answer these questions.
- The answers are yes or no, indicating whether the milestones are passed (yes) or not (no).



Scale for language development

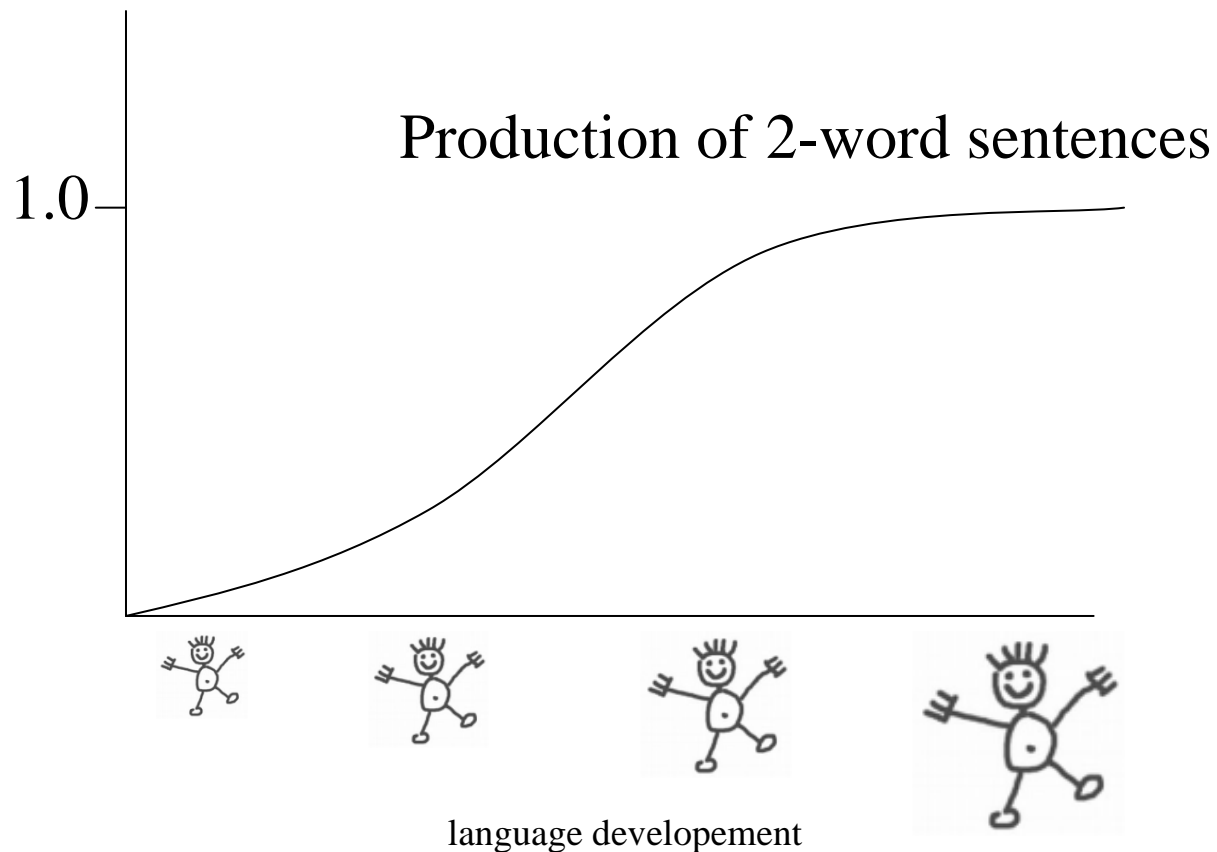
↑
comprehension of
2-word- sentences

↑
production of
2 word sentences

↑
production of
compound sentences

Assumptions of the Mokken Model

Probability
on positive
response





Timetabel

- April-June: Pilot: Are the parent questions understandable?
- Sept-dec: Main study: To norm and finalize the instrument
- Discussion: What is the norm?

Current situation:

Milestones are translated and on MP3



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