

Sensory Profile Assessment in Autism

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Abstract

This study aimed to describe the sensory processing profile of 50 nonverbal children with autism, aged 8 to 10, from special education schools in Bucharest. Assessment was conducted using the Sensory Integration Inventory Revised for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and the Sensory Profile 2 – Child, two standardized tools used to identify sensory characteristics and reactions to stimuli. Results from the sensory integration inventory indicate high mean scores in the tactile ($M = 19.98$), vestibular ($M = 19.92$), and proprioceptive ($M = 18.86$) dimensions, with excellent internal consistency ($\alpha = 0.994\text{--}0.995$), confirming the presence of marked sensory difficulties. Analysis using the Sensory Profile 2 – ChildC reveals distinct distributions of response patterns: 31 children exhibit a "Seeking" profile, 26 "Avoiding," 33 "Sensitivity," and 30 "Registration," suggesting significant variability in how stimuli are detected, filtered, and regulated. Data regarding the behavioral aspects associated with sensory processing indicate significant impairments: over 60% exhibit behavioral difficulties, approximately 70% show socio-emotional difficulties, and over 70% display attentional difficulties. The resulting profile highlights the need for graded and predictable sensory interventions tailored to each child's specific characteristics.

Keywords: Behavior; Children; Nonverbal; Processing; Stimuli