

PERCEPTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF VOICE DISORDERS: A COMPARISON STUDY
BETWEEN HISPANIC AND NON-HISPANICS

JACQUELINE N. LOPEZ

Department of Rehabilitation Sciences

APPROVED:

Bess Sirmon Fjordbak Ph.D., CCC-SLP, Chair

Anthony Salvatore, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Osvaldo Morera, Ph.D.

Patricia D. Witherspoon, Ph.D.
Dean of the Graduate School

Copyright ©

by

Jacqueline N. Lopez

2010

PREVIEW

PERCEPTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF VOICE DISORDERS: A COMPARISON
STUDY BETWEEN HISPANIC AND NON-HISPANICS

by

JACQUELINE NICOLE LOPEZ

THESIS

Presented to the Faculty of the Graduate School of

The University of Texas at El Paso

in Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements

for the Degree of

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Department of Rehabilitation Sciences

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

May 2010

UMI Number: 1477803

All rights reserved

INFORMATION TO ALL USERS

The quality of this reproduction is dependent upon the quality of the copy submitted.

In the unlikely event that the author did not send a complete manuscript and there are missing pages, these will be noted. Also, if material had to be removed, a note will indicate the deletion.

UMI[®]

Dissertation Publishing

UMI 1477803

Copyright 2010 by ProQuest LLC.

All rights reserved. This edition of the work is protected against unauthorized copying under Title 17, United States Code.

ProQuest[®]

ProQuest LLC
789 East Eisenhower Parkway
P.O. Box 1346
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1346

Acknowledgements

This research project was funded by Grant Number 1P20MD002287-02 from the National Institutes of Health (NIH, PI. Robert Andrews), National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD) through the Hispanic Health Disparities Research Center (HHDRC). The author would like to acknowledge Esnire Gomez for her assistance with data collection and transcription.

PREVIEW

Abstract

The extent of public education in the Hispanic population regarding voice disorders has been unidentified thus far, motivating the current study to assess knowledge and perception of functional and organic voice disorders among Hispanic individuals in the El Paso region. The project involved an experimental research design to investigate whether demographic variables influenced the accuracy of knowledge of voice disorders in the general population residing in the Greater El Paso Region. Results indicate that the majority of the participants perceive articulation, fluency, and voice disorders as interchangeable and are unaware of the role of medical and rehabilitation professionals in the treatment of voice disorders. Although statistically significant differences exist between Hispanic and non-Hispanic cohorts on certain tasks, low composite scores exemplify the need for increased awareness of voice disorders and medical and rehabilitative options in both Hispanic and non-Hispanic populations.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements.....	iv
Abstract.....	v
Table of Contents.....	vi
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures.....	viii
Literature Review	1
Purpose	6
Methodology.....	7
Auditory Stimuli	7
Research Participants.....	8
Instrument	8
Procedure	10
Analysis	12
Results.....	13
Question 1: Comparison of Voice Disorder Defenition between Cohorts	13
Defenition (frequently occuring terminology).....	13
Question 2: Identification Accuracy between Cohorts.....	13
Individual Voice Stimuli Accuracy	15
Question 3: Self-remidiation of Voice Disorders	16
Question 4: Awareness of Otolaryngologist/ Speech-Language Pathologist.....	16
Discussion.....	17
Clinical Implications.....	19
Limitations	19
Future Directions	20
References.....	21
Vita	24