ANALYSIS OF THE TRIADIC INTERACTION BETWEEN PARENTS, THEIR PRETERM BABIES AND A SONOROUS OBJECT

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The traditional position of the triadic interactions establishes that before the end of the first year the children would only have dyadic relations (subject-subject) (Trevarthen and Hubley, 1978, Tomasello, 2004, 2008). However, the phenomenon of joint attention implies a triangulation from the first months that questions the traditional positions.

The objective of this work is to analyze how these first triadic interactions appear from 2 to 4 months in preterm moderate-late. It is a prospective longitudinal study that consists in the follow-up of seven premature infants in their first four months of life (2, 3 and 4 months of age). In each observation (unstructured) 5 minutes of spontaneous interaction between caregiver and baby were filmed with and through a sound object (maraca), in the family home. The parents were provided with the object and oriented to use it without explaining how. An analysis of the changes in the child’s responses to the communicative proposals of the adult is made from the records.

A significant change was observed in the attention focused on the object between t2 and t4 (p = 0.003) according to Friedman’s test. At the same time that this happens, the pauses that parents make become longer and more communicative, which allows children to participate more in the action proposed by the adult, from looking to capture and produce sounds from less to more organization. The triadic interactions of these preterm infants showed a pattern with fewer bodily manifestations than normotypic samples and some overstimulation.

It is shown that interactions with objects are present before the most accepted theories, even in preterms. Referents do not occur naturally in human communication, but are built in interaction with others (Costall, 2013, Rodríguez et al., 2015, Sinha, 2015). From the rhythmic use of an object, a structuring cultural experience can be constructed for the subject that will depend both on the resources of the adult and their environment, as well as on the child’s own disposition. The use of the rhythmic-sound object, besides being an interaction tool, is an instrument that allows the detection and prevention of risk interactions.

Keywords: preterm, early triadic interactions, joint attention, joint actions, rhythm patterns