

Late Onset Stuttering: Framework for understanding and management

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ABSTRACT

Late-onset stuttering (LOS) refers to the sudden onset of stuttering that appears later in life due to significant psychological trauma or an accumulation of stress caused by a series of significant psychological events or stuttering that appears for no known reason. While there is considerable literature on the aetiology and management of developmental stuttering, LOS is poorly understood, and more research is needed to better understand this subject. The proposed research comprises a mixed-method questionnaire disseminated to native to intermediate English speakers and native to intermediate Khaliji Arabic speakers (Arabian Gulf countries: Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, and Oman) who experience LOS. We are particularly interested in looking at LOS among Khaliji Arabic speakers to compare findings from speakers from this region, where there are specific cultural sensitivities, with participants from Western cultures.

This study aims to define the clinical features and characteristics of LOS in adults. The descriptive data from this study will improve our understanding of the salient clinical characteristics of people with late-onset stuttering, help provide a more comprehensive view of the disorder, and bridge the knowledge gap in the relevant literature.