Students’ views and experiences of the training and use of phonetic transcription in speech and language therapy – the Irish perspective

Áine Shaw & Irena Yanushevskaya
a.shaw5@nuigalway.ie, irena.yanushevskaya@nuigalway.ie/yanushei@tcd.ie

Background

• Phonetic transcription is an essential skill for practising SLTs required during the assessment, diagnosis and management of clients with speech difficulties
• Student SLTs must receive appropriate training to carry out phonetic transcription accurately and reliably once out in the workforce

Aims

• To investigate student SLTs views and experiences of the phonetic transcription training they received in university
• To identify what poses difficulties for students
• To identify potential ways to overcome difficulties and enhance learning

Methods

• Online questionnaire based on Knight et al. (2018)
• 36 questions, qualitative and quantitative data
• 40 final year SLT students from RoI universities with Speech and Language Therapy as an undergraduate degree

Results

• 95% of participants consider phonetic transcription an important professional skill
• 82% plan to maintain their transcription skills
• 70% have low confidence entering the workforce
• Main difficulties: narrow impressionistic transcription and transcription of disordered speech
• Students more confident using the IPA than the ExtIPA

Phonetic transcription is difficult, overwhelming, frustrating, different, daunting, stressful, confusing, not relevant, completely new

More feedback!
Smaller class sizes!
More clinically relevant practice!
Refresher courses!
More work with disordered speech!