

ABSTRACT

Background : In the last ten years, there are more children at age 2-5 years, and even 8-12 years get autistic signs, especially malfunction of communication, disability of social interaction and maladaptive behavior. The reported cases (prevalence) of autistic children in Indonesia increases from time to time. At some general hospitals in big cities, more patients with mild to severe developmental disorders are referred. To evaluating autistic disorders, a practical and objective instrument is needed. Today, the most utilized instrument is CARS (Childhood Autism Rating Scale), There are two terms used for autistic children, High Functioning Autism and Low Functioning Autism. Generally, these two terms are related to the IQ test result. Thus, each autistic child with High Functioning Autism or Low Functioning Autism can obtain an exact behavioural therapy.

Goal : To identify the correlation between the score of CARS and the level of Intelligence Quotient (IQ) in autistic children at Agca Center, Behavioural Therapy Center in Surabaya.

Method : This study is *cross-sectional study* and designed to use descriptive analytic method. This Study is taken at Agca Center, Behavioural Therapy Center in Surabaya, in September 2010. Samples of this study are autistic children of 6-15 years old taken from the whole existing population. The instruments of this study are questionnaire of child personal data and questionnaire of CARS. The study data is analyzed with *multiple regression analysis and pearson correlation*.

Result : It is found in this study, that the rate of IQ has significant correlation to the CARS score, with correlation coefficient $-0,917$ and significancy $0,000 < 0,05$. And with the confidence interval, which is the lower limit $-0,507$ and upper limit $-0,399$. IQ rate has negative influence to CARS score, meaning the higher the IQ rate the lower the CARS score. It is found that sex has no significant influence to the CARS score, with beta coefficient $-0,012$ and significancy $0,827 > 0,05$. Age has no significant influence to CARS score, with beta coefficient $-0,076$ and significancy $0,181 > 0,05$. The duration of therapy has no significant influence to CARS score with beta coefficient $0,048$ and significancy $0,391 > 0,05$.

Conclusion : The rate of IQ has significant correlation to the CARS score. The IQ rank influences negatively the CARS score, meaning the higher the IQ rank the lower the CARS score. The age, sex, and duration of therapy do not influence significantly the CARS score.

Key Word : Autistic Disorder – CARS – Intelligence Quotient (IQ)