



CAUSES OF VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

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Abstract

This article analyzes the causes of visual impairment, their types and their impact on child development from a scientific and pedagogical perspective. The study covers the effects of congenital and acquired factors of visual impairment, including hereditary diseases, pathologies during pregnancy, infectious diseases, traumas and environmental factors on visual function.

Keywords: Visual impairment, visual impairment, typhlopedagogy, congenital defects, acquired diseases, hereditary factors, eye diseases, visual analyzer, mental development, perception, attention, memory, speech development, corrective and pedagogical assistance, prevention.

Introduction

The visual analyzer plays an important role in human life and serves to receive the main part of information about the environment. Through vision, the child perceives existence, distinguishes objects and phenomena, develops speech, thinking and cognitive processes. Therefore, any impairment in visual ability has a negative impact on the physical, psychological and social development of the child.

Today, the incidence of visual impairments is increasing as a result of environmental problems, hereditary factors, complications during pregnancy and childbirth, infectious diseases, and various traumas. Visual impairments are manifested in congenital or acquired forms, which create certain difficulties in the child's educational process. In particular, the limitation of visual activity has a specific effect on the development of perception, attention, memory, spatial imagination, and speech. Studying the causes of visual impairment, their early detection and prevention is one of the urgent tasks of today's special pedagogy and typhlopedagogy. Because a deep



analysis of the factors that cause the defect is important for the effective organization of correctional and pedagogical work, the social adaptation of children, and the successful involvement of them in the inclusive educational process. Perception of the world with the help of a visual analyzer is important for the comprehensive development of a child. The most necessary impressions of the surrounding environment are perceived with the eyes. Through vision, a child has an idea of the color, shape, size, movement, distance, and position of objects in space. It is known that the visual analyzer consists of the light-receiving part of the eyeball (retinal) and its auxiliary apparatus, which transmit the image that falls on the eye first to the subcortical centers, and then to the cerebral cortex (occipital lobes), where the higher visual centers are located. Changes in any part of this analyzer will certainly affect the child's visual ability.

Diseases of the organ of vision are congenital or acquired by origin. According to statistics, in recent years the number of children suffering from eye diseases has been increasing significantly. A.V. Khvatovoy determined in his scientific research that 88% of children who are completely blind and 92% of those with poor vision have congenital visual impairment. Congenital diseases can be hereditary or result from exposure to various harmful factors during pregnancy.

A pregnant woman or her partner may also be infected with various diseases (Toxoplasmosis, brucellosis, syphilis). If these diseases affect the fetus at 2-4 weeks, the child's eyeball does not develop and becomes stunted. If it affects 16-20 weeks, the eyeballs may be damaged, the pupil may become distorted, and the outer membrane may become white. In addition, during pregnancy, the mother's acute infectious diseases, such as rubella, measles, chickenpox, anemia, chronic colds, lack of substances in the body, anemia, damage to the visual centers in the brain during embryonic development, brain tumors, etc., as well as serious diseases of the parents, such as alcoholism, drug addiction, taxi addiction, are also causes.

Visual impairment acquired during life can be caused by the following: organic damage to any part of the eye, penetration of a sharp object, splashing of caustic substances, inflammation of various membranes of the eye, such as conjunctivitis, keratitis, iridocyclitis (inflammation of the iris and ciliary body), retinitis, neuritis, clouding of the eyeball, increased intraocular pressure due to blockage or obstruction of the outflow tract of intraocular fluid, a child suffering from trachoma, smallpox,



gonorrhoea, ocular tuberculosis, tumors in the eye or brain, scarlet fever, and other diseases, as well as improper use of computer technology, excessive eye strain, etc. Children with visual impairments are divided into blind and partially sighted children according to their visual acuity. Blind children are divided into groups of children whose visual acuity is sharply reduced (total blindness) or whose visual acuity drops to 0.04 even when corrected (with glasses).

Children with visual acuity from 0.05 to 0.4 are included in the group of partially sighted children. Children in this group perceive the surrounding environment through the visual analyzer. Visual impairment, that is, visual defects, are progressive and uniform (significant). The progressive type becomes more severe day by day, gradually leading to blindness. The significant type remains stable and unchanged.

Young babies sometimes have congenital eye defects: cryptophthalmos - eyeball, eyelids not developed from birth, microblepharon - eye not closing due to short eyelids, coloboma - eyelid defect, etc. These include. Most of these defects can be treated and eliminated surgically.

Conjunctivitis (lat. conjunctivus - connecting) is an inflammation of the mucous membrane (conjunctiva) connecting the eyelid with the eyeball. It is caused by the ingress of pathogenic microbes, viruses, physical and chemical substances (eyelid makeup) into the conjunctiva. Dust, smoke, prolonged work in a dark place, eye fatigue and metabolic disorders, diseases of the throat, nose, and gastrointestinal tract are also major causes.

Acute and chronic conjunctivitis are distinguished. Acute conjunctivitis begins suddenly. Often both eyes are painful, tearful, swollen, the patient cannot look into the slit. Pus is released from the eye, and in the morning after sleep, the eyelashes are stuck together.

Chronic conjunctivitis develops gradually. The patient's eyelids itch, sting, and hurt, as if sand is stuck in the eye. These symptoms are aggravated in the evening when the light is turned on. In this case, the eye may become cloudy, discharge from it, and the conjunctiva may become red or crusty.

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