

Table O.4: Expressive communication difficulties versus no expressive communication difficulties as a risk factor for challenging behaviour

Quality assessment							Summary of findings				
Participants (studies) Follow up	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Publication bias	Overall quality of evidence	Study event rates (%)		Relative effect (95% CI)	Anticipated absolute effects	
							With no expressive communication difficulties	With expressive communication difficulties		Risk with no expressive communication difficulties	Risk difference with expressive communication difficulties (95% CI)
All aggression (physical, verbal and destructive) (assessed with: Validated questionnaire)											
1936 (2 studies)	no serious risk of bias	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	no serious imprecision	undetected	⊕⊕⊖⊖ LOW	300/1310 (22.9%)	115/626 (18.4%)	OR 1.41 (1.08 to 1.86)	229 per 1000	66 more per 1000 (from 14 more to 127 more)
Physical aggression- adult population (assessed with: Questionnaire)											
3662 (1 study)	serious ¹	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	serious ²	undetected	⊕⊖⊖⊖ VERY LOW ^{1,2} due to risk of bias, imprecision	784/2994 (26.2%)	250/668 (37.4%)	OR 1.69 (1.41 to 2.01)	262 per 1000	113 more per 1000 (from 72 more to 154 more)
Physical aggression- mixed population (assessed with: Non-validated questionnaire)											
211 (1 study)	serious ³	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	serious ²	undetected	⊕⊕⊖⊖ LOW ^{2,3,4} due to risk of bias, imprecision,	52/166 (31.3%)	2/45 (4.4%)	OR 0.10 (0.02 to 0.44)	313 per 1000	270 fewer per 1000 (from 146 fewer to 304 fewer)

Quality assessment							Summary of findings				
						large effect					
Self-injury (assessed with: Questionnaires, interviews and formal assessments)											
7502 (9 studies) 0 to 3 years	no serious risk of bias	very serious ⁵	no serious indirectness	no serious imprecision	undetected	⊕⊖⊖⊖ VERY LOW ^{5,6} due to inconsistency, large effect	821/5630 (14.6%)	566/1872 (30.2%)	OR 2.93 (1.8 to 4.78)	146 per 1000	188 more per 1000 (from 89 more to 304 more)
Stereotypy (assessed with: Validated questionnaire)											
915 (1 study)	no serious risk of bias	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	serious ²	undetected	⊕⊖⊖⊖ VERY LOW ² due to imprecision	290/769 (37.7%)	88/146 (60.3%)	OR 2.51 (1.74 to 3.6)	377 per 1000	226 more per 1000 (from 136 more to 308 more)
<p>1 Non validated checklist for risk and outcome assessment</p> <p>2 Optimal information size not met; single study</p> <p>3 Questionnaire for risk and outcome assessment was not validated</p> <p>4 RR < 0.2</p> <p>5 I² > 75%</p> <p>6 RR > 2</p>											