



HANDS in Autism®

Interdisciplinary Training and Resource Center

Comparison of Behavioral patterns in NDI Patients

Student Name: Sai Tejaswi Bodempudi

Project group : NDI Exploratory

Position : Research Assistant



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY



Recurring Tasks: During the internship, recurring tasks included scoring and entering data from Cerner documents into REDCap, cross-checking entered data, and participating in regular team meetings to discuss project updates and new assignments. These routine tasks formed the backbone of data management and collaborative efforts within the team.

Occasional Assignments: Occasional assignments involved tasks like downloading files from Cerner, segregating DCS involvement clients, and attending library sessions for research skill enhancement. The outcome of these tasks contributed to the organization and analysis of data, ensuring a systematic approach to handling diverse datasets.

Work Interactions: Interactions with team members primarily occurred during weekly meetings and occasional one-on-one sessions. Communication took place through virtual platforms, including video conferencing and messaging tools. The frequency of these interactions was essential for project coordination and ensuring everyone was on the same page.

Main Findings - Practical Learning: The practical learning experience provided insights into real-world applications of data management tools like REDCap and Cerner. It highlighted the importance of effective communication in a virtual work environment and the significance of routine tasks in maintaining data accuracy and integrity. Understanding how to navigate occasional assignments, such as segregating specific client data, added depth to my practical skills.

Insights: Insights gained include a deeper understanding of the intricacies of data scoring and entry, the significance of ethical considerations in research (emphasized through CITI Training), and the collaborative nature of effective team dynamics. Challenges faced included occasional technical glitches during data download from Cerner, time constraints in scoring data, and the need for detailed data cross-checking. Notable accomplishments encompass improved efficiency in scoring data, successful completion of assigned tasks, and active participation in team discussions and training sessions. Overall, the internship provided a holistic view of practical applications in data management, research, and collaborative work environments.



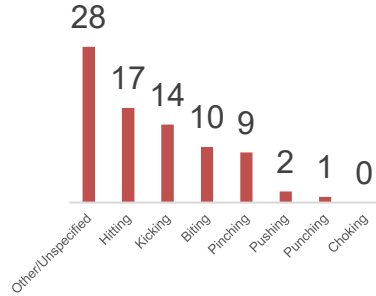
Analysis/Interpretation



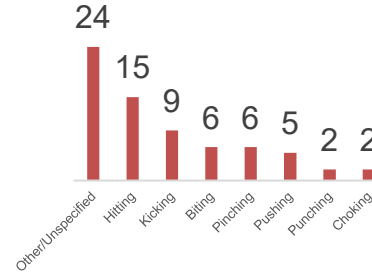
Physical Aggression

In total of 100 NDI Patients which includes 39 clients in 2021, 31 clients in 2022 and 30 clients in 2023. "Other/Unspecified" is the most often reported physical aggression type throughout all three years, implying a wide range of physical aggression forms not described under traditional classifications. "Hitting" and "Kicking" also appear often, indicating that these are prevalent types of physical hostility.

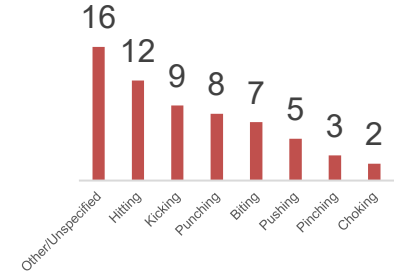
2021



2022

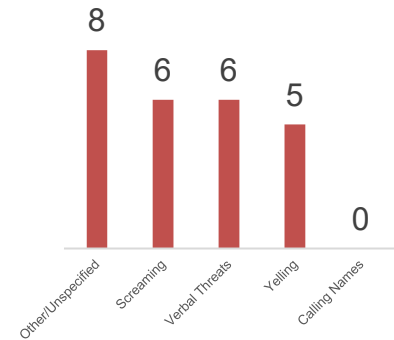
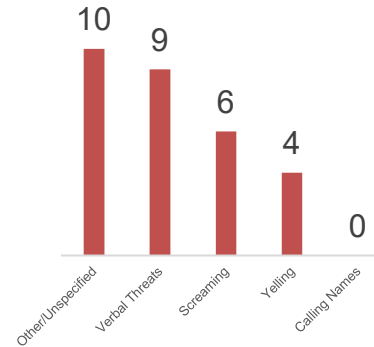
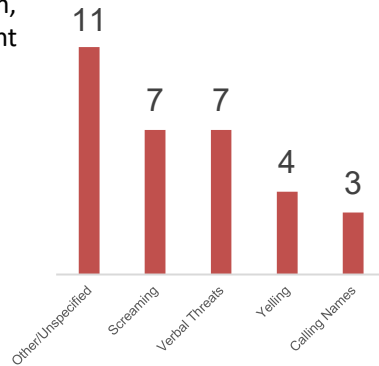


2023



Verbal Aggression

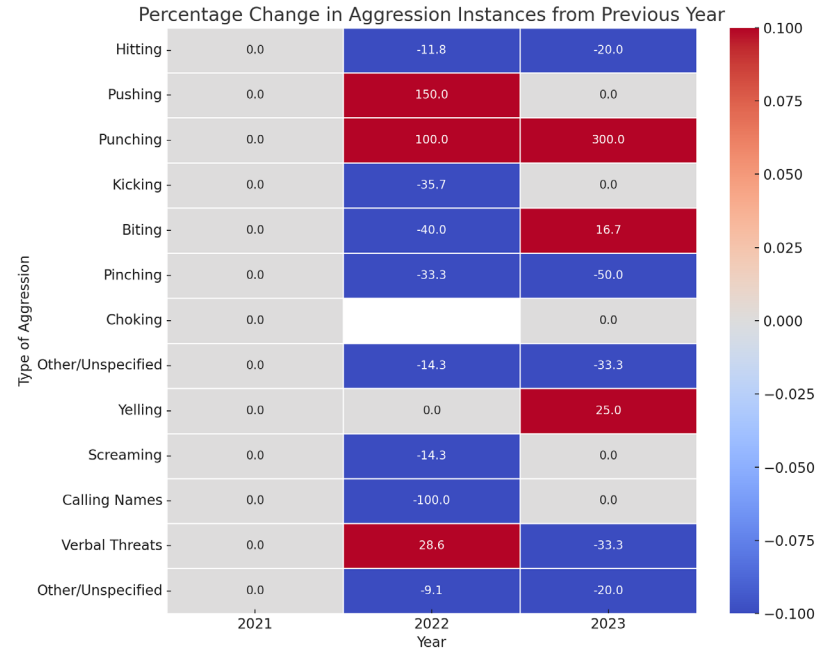
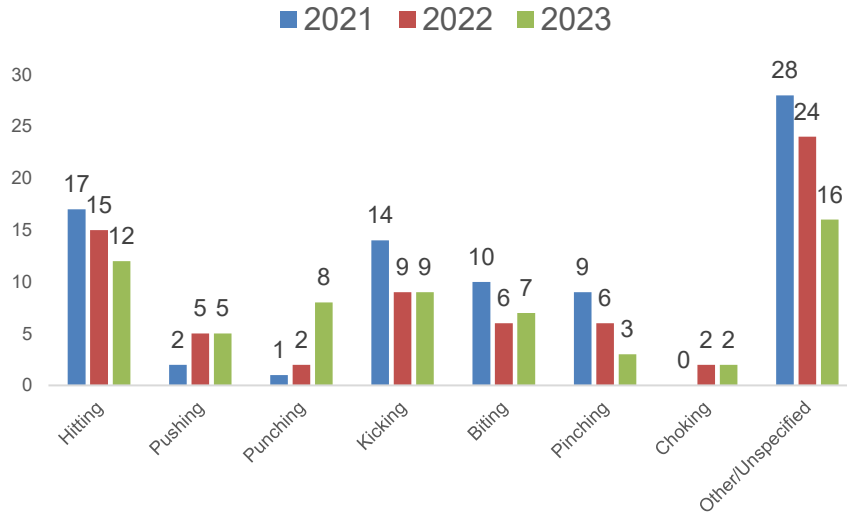
The "Other/Unspecified" category is important in verbal aggression, as are actions such as "Verbal Threats" and "Screaming



Analysis/Interpretation



Physical Aggression Comparison



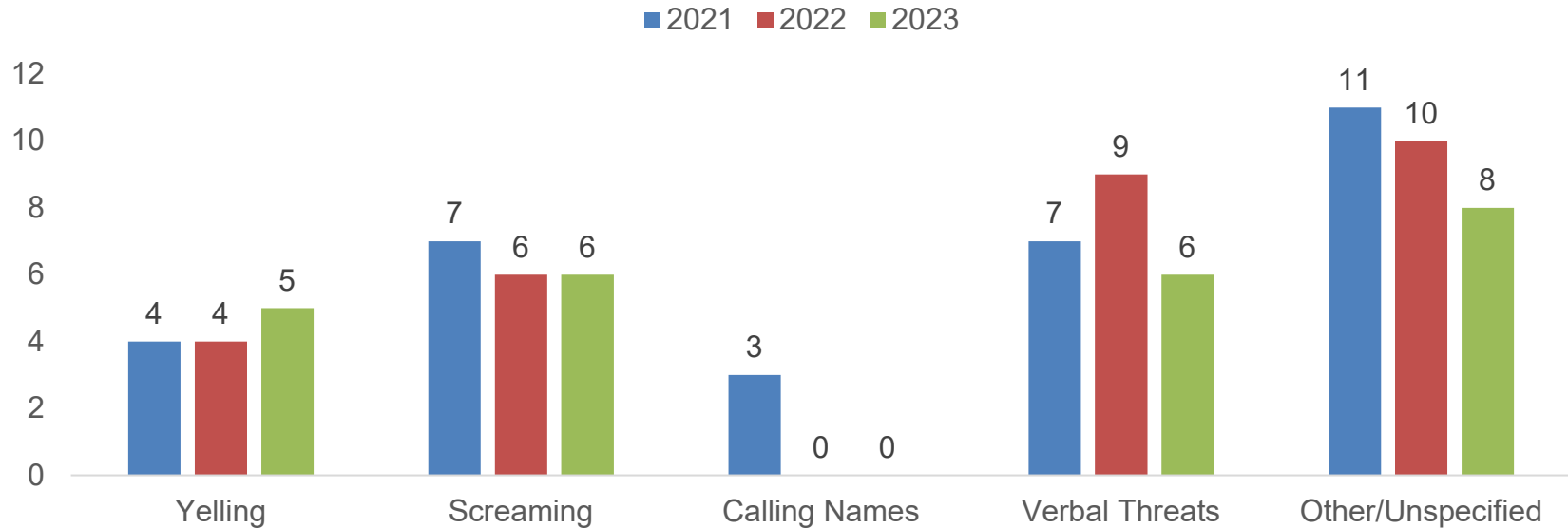
The occurrence of some habits varies noticeably from year to year. For example, "Physical Aggression (Punching)" is up in 2023 compared to prior years. Understanding the causes of these variations can be critical.



Analysis/Interpretation



Verbal Aggression Comparison



The prevalence of "Other/Unspecified" in both physical and verbal aggression shows that the existing classification is either too wide or does not fully capture the range of acts.



Recommendations



- The internship experience has provided valuable insights into data management, collaborative work environments, and ethical considerations in research.
- Data Categorization Improvement: Refine the categorization of aggression types to capture more specific behaviours. This can help in developing more focused intervention strategies and understanding underlying causes.
- Streamline Data Download Processes: Implement measures to address occasional technical glitches during data download from Cerner, ensuring a smoother and more efficient process. This can involve regular system checks, updates, or exploring alternative methods for data retrieval.



Conclusion



The dataset analysis gives substantial insights into the patterns of physical and verbal aggressiveness from 2021 to 2023. Notably, a wide range of aggressive actions are recorded, with the "Other/Unspecified" category being the most common, indicating the need for more specific categorization. Variations in annual statistics indicate that forms of aggressiveness are more widespread or are becoming more prominent over time. It is recommended that organizations refine data categorization, develop targeted intervention strategies, improve staff training, analyse yearly trends for deeper insights, and involve families and communities in comprehensive management plans to positively impact their approach to managing such behaviours. These actions will not only aid in better understanding and management of aggressiveness but will also contribute to the general well-being and safety of both patients and staff.

