



<p>Watson et al. (2001). Reduction of chronic aggressive behaviour 10 years after brain injury. <i>Brain Inj</i>, 15(11): 1003-1015.</p>	<p>RoBiNT score - 10/30</p>
<p>Method / Results</p>	<p>Rehabilitation Program</p>
<p>Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Type: SCD. ABC design (A=baseline observation of aggression before treatment, B=differential reinforcement of low rates of responding [DRL] intervention, C=differential reinforcement of incompatible behaviour [DRI] intervention). • Population: Male, aged in his mid-thirties, with brain injury following a gunshot to the head 10 years prior. He underwent right frontal and temporal lobectomies, and may have suffered additional brain injury when he contracted meningitis with hydrocephalus. He developed epilepsy, left sided hemiplegia, and severe behavioural problems with aggression. Neuropsychological assessment revealed global cognitive impairment. He was an inpatient in a specialist neurobehavioural unit for several years. • Setting: Inpatient neurorehabilitation unit. <p>Target behaviour measure/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbally abusive behaviours (shouting, swearing, threatening well-being) as measured by the Overt Aggression Scale Modified for Neurorehabilitation (OAS-MNR). <p>Primary outcome measure/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No other standardised measure. <p>Results: Significant improvements in the level of aggressive behaviour were observed. Despite increased expectations and demands, frequency of aggression and mean ratings of severity on the OAS-MNR significantly reduced. The patient was able to move out of the inpatient rehabilitation unit into a satellite group home.</p>	<p>Aim: To reduce chronic aggressive behaviour following severe head injury using a differential reinforcement of low rates of responding (DRL) intervention.</p> <p>Materials: Star stickers and a star wall chart, tangible rewards that are meaningful to the patient.</p> <p>Treatment Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duration: 85 weeks. • Procedure: Intervention ran for the whole day, 5 days per week (Mon–Fri), for a total of 425 days. • Content: Each morning the patient is informed of his opportunity to earn stars throughout the day if he has not been aggressive more than a specified number of times during 4 time periods. The program begins with a target level that is easily achievable. Target levels are then reduced as the program progresses. At the end of each period the patient is given feedback regarding his performance and reminded about the aims of the program. Social praise and a star are given when the patient improves. If behaviour does not improve, the patient is encouraged to do better next time. When aggressive outbursts occur, staff are instructed to withdraw attention ('time out on the spot' technique). If all 4 stars are earned in the day, a tangible reward is provided.

Note that these rehabilitation summaries reflect the current literature and the treatments are not necessarily endorsed by members of the NRED Team.