
Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPTuuli

Title: Noise and room acoustics – risk factors for voice disorders among music therapists?

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Project abstract:

Music therapy is a “vocally demanding profession” (Boyle & Engen, 2008, p.46). Currently, little is known about the prevalence of voice disorders and about the possible risk factors for voice disorders, such as noise and room acoustics within music therapy. However, voice disorders are well documented among other vocally demanding professions, such as teachers and singers. As it can be assumed that music therapy workspaces may not always be ideal in terms of acoustics, the aim of the study is to investigate the possible voice disorders, and room acoustics and noise as risk factors among music therapists in Finland.

The data will be collected via a modified online survey previously used to investigate teachers (see Lyberg Åhlander et al, 2009) including Likert scale statements. Statements regarding room acoustics, environmental factors, and voice will be analyzed for frequencies. Also, possible links with background factors (e.g. age, work context, client groups) will be analyzed using Chi Square and z tests. Results will enable us to present music therapists practical strategies to ensure vocal health.

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Noise and room acoustics – risk factors for voice disorders among music therapists?

1. General description of the data

1.1 What kinds of data is your research based on? What data will be collected, produced or reused? What file formats will the data be in? Additionally, give a rough estimate of the size of the data produced/collected.

The data for this study will be collected via an online questionnaire (less than 100 GB). The data will only be used in this project. The data will be responses to Likert-scale statements, and will be stored as a table (excel/SPSS). We hope to get responses from several hundred participants.

1.2 How will the consistency and quality of data be controlled?

The data will be collected via an online questionnaire. Thus, the data will be automatically transferred into a table when downloading the responses, minimizing the possibility for human error. However, the data table will be inspected visually to ensure that no problems have occurred during the data transfer. Both researchers will use the same table, so only one version of the data will be sorted and used.

2. Ethical and legal compliance

2.1 What legal issues are related to your data management? (For example, GDPR and other legislation affecting data processing.)

We will not collect the names or contact information of the participants. However, the following information will be asked for:

- age
- gender
- place of work / city
- education
- time of graduation as music therapist
- time having worked as a music therapist
- size of possible client groups
- working with other therapists or other professionals
- possibility to rest during workday due to voice problems
- using a voice amplifier during client visits
- voice training
- using voice during freetime
- getting help for voice problems
- sick leave due to voice problems
- information about smoking and asthma
- hypersensitivities
- hearing aids and job satisfaction

These will be used for analysis, but the results will be reported in a way that does not make it possible for a reader to identify any single participant. Only authorized persons will be able to access the data. As no names or contact information will be collected, the data can be handled in an anonymized way.

Privacy note has been created and will be given to the participants. In addition, the participants will get information about the project and sign a consent form to participate in the study.

We request a statement on the ethical dimensions of this projects by the Board for Research Ethics at Åbo Akademi University.

2.2 How will you manage the rights of the data you use, produce and share?

The data collected for this study will only be used by the researchers in the study, and will not be made available for other researchers, as the data is narrow and will be used in its entirety in this study.

3. Documentation and metadata

3.1 How will you document your data in order to make it findable, accessible, interoperable and re-usable for you and others? What kind of metadata standards, README files or other documentation will you use to help others to understand and use your data?

Data and notes will be stored together. Together with the data, there is a README file (.txt) explaining the metadata of the gathered research data.

The metadata will include coding instructions for the different variables included in the online survey used to gather data.

The study will be done by three researchers, using one table file shared privately via Åbo Akademi University's server.

4. Storage and backup during the research project

4.1 Where will your data be stored, and how will the data be backed up?

The data and the back-up data will be stored on Åbo Akademi University's private server, accessible only to the researchers of the study - as recommended by the university.

During the project the data will be stored on a secure network drive (pchome/pcinst) backed-up daily, provided by the ÅA ICT services.

Non-sensitive data which needs to be shared among collaborators may be shared via OneDrive.

Principal investigator Leena Maria Heikkola is responsible for data back-up and data recovery in this project.

4.2 Who will be responsible for controlling access to your data, and how will secured access be controlled?

Although no names or contact information for the participants will be stored, the data can only be accessed by the two researchers in the study.

5. Opening, publishing and archiving the data after the research project

5.1 What part of the data can be made openly available or published? Where and when will the data, or its metadata, be made available?

As the data will be used in this study in its entirety, no data will be made available after the study.

5.2 Where will data with long-term value be preserved, and for how long?

We will store the data until the study is finished, and it will be destroyed latest 5 years after the data collection. The data will be stored/archived on Åbo Akademi University's server.

6. Data management responsibilities and resources

6.1 Who (for example role, position, and institution) will be responsible for data management?

The PI of the study is responsible for data management, as well as for the DMP. The other researchers in the project will have access to the privately shared data table.

6.2 What resources will be required for your data management procedures to ensure that the data can be opened and preserved according to FAIR principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Re-usable)?

The data management in the study will be done within ordinary university resources.