Design Cycle

**Background:** There is an increase of survival of preterm babies. Quantitative studies show that prematurity is often related with a delay in cognition, eating, breathing, moving and communication. However, there might be more.

**Question:** How do Dutch parents/caregivers perceive the social interaction of their five-year-old premature born child (gestational age < 37 weeks)?

**Theory:** Social interaction

**Concepts:** Social competence, social power (popular status or not), concern (goals and intention), appraisal (evaluation of the situation), contagiousness (mimic and imitation), conversation partners.

**Research design:** In depth interviews with parents/caregivers

Ethnographic Cycle

**Research instrument:**
In depth interview guide

**Participant recruitment:**
List selection (University Medical Center Groningen) Five parents/care-givers of five-year-old premature born children.

**Data collection:**
Interviews transcription, reflection

**Making inferences:**
Adjusting research instrument, data collection

Analytic Cycle

The following concepts might play a role in the social interaction of premature born children:

- Appearance (child’s height, handicap)
- Interaction partners (birth order)
- Contact with grandparents
- Character (little fighter)
- Attention problems
- Imitation (especially of peers)
- Handicap (hemi paresis)
- Parents/caregivers are worried about the future development of their child

"and is P different than he should be if he had it less difficult, and if he had more brothers and sisters? I don’t know"

"that is also the case at school, a child grasps something and cuts it, but with her it is not that easy, so she has always to fight"

"…and if it is shimmering outside, and we are sitting in the living, and we have no notion of time, and if it is becoming darker and darker, then he can tell intimately about things he is worried about and he is not worried about"

The concepts which came up from the data might be related as below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anxiety parents/caregivers</th>
<th>Social interaction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premature born child</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appearance</td>
<td>Attention problems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child’s high</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handicap</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contagiousness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imitation peers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imitation brothers/sisters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandparents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Indepth interview guide**

1. How does a day look like if you and your child are at home? (probes: making contact (concern), how, asking for confirmation (appraisal), sharing emotions (concern), reciprocal comprehension (appraisal))

2. What can you say about the contact between your husband and your child? (conversation partners)
(probes: with other family (conversation partners), peers, type of game (contagiousness), initiate (concern), activities, sharing emotions (concern))

3. What can you say about the prematurity and the interaction of your child with others?
(probes: yourself, husband, peers, family (concern, appraisal, conversation partners))

4. Can you describe the most beautiful moment of you and your child together?

This poster is a result of RIQSHA (Research Initiative in Qualitative Studies in Health and Ageing). RIQSHA is a collaboration between the Hanze University, University of Applied sciences and the University of Groningen, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, Population Research Centre.

Contact: m.r.luinge@pl.hanze.nl