**Utilizing the Communication Complexity Scale to Study Prelinguistic Communication in Typically Developing Infants**

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**Purpose:** To determine if the Communication Complexity Scale (Brady et al., 2012) can be used to measure prelinguistic communication in typically developing infants.

**Methods:** Typically developing infants (n=185) were recruited. Aged 6, 8, 10, or 12 months of age. Infants were administered the Early Social Communication Scales (ESCS) (Mundy et al., 2003). These were play based-tasks involving the presentation of a series of toys to elicit nonverbal communication from participants. The tasks included 3 wind-up toys, 3 hand-operated toys, and 2 turn taking toys. The presentations of the toys were recorded and then later coded utilizing the Communication Complexity Scale.

For each toy, the highest observed communication act for both joint attention and behavioral regulation acts was recorded. The data was then compiled between coders and analyzed between the four age groups. Reliability was taken on the data utilizing point-by-point reliability.

**Results:** Amongst the four age groups, observers utilizing the Communication Complexity Scale coded prelinguistic communication behaviors with 67%-92% accuracy.

**Conclusions:** The data collected supports the use of the Communication Complexity Scale to measure prelinguistic behaviors in typically developing infants. Further study should be implemented to determine if results could be generalized to similar typically developing populations. After further study these results could provide evidence supporting the use of the Communication Complexity scale to be used clinically to identify early developmental concerns in infants.