TRAINING PROGRAM BASED ON MAKATON METHOD FOR DEVELOPMENT NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM IN TAIF

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Abstract_ This study aimed to build a training program based on the method of Makaton for the development of non-verbal communication in children with autism in the province of Taif. The study sample composed of 16 children with autism at the Institute of Intellectual Education in the city of Taif. These children are divided into two groups, one experimental group (composed of 8children) and the program will be applied on them, and the other is the control group (consisting of 8 children). To achieve the aim of the study, the researchers developed non-verbal communication skills scale for autistic children. Relying on previous studies conducted, the researchers were sure of the validity and reliability of the scale and built the training program based on the method of Makaton. The results of the study were as follows:

• There were no differences of statistical significance the average times of the experimental group and the control group in the measurement on a scale tribal non-verbal communication.

• There were differences of statistical significance average times of the experimental group and the control group for the experimental group attributed to the training program.

• There were no differences of statistical significance among the middle ranks of the experimental group in dimensional measurements and follow up two months after the application of the program.

Keyword- Makaton Method, Non-Verbal Communication, Autism