



Orofacial function of persons having Vacterl syndrome

Report from questionnaires

The survey comprises 11 Questionnaires.

Estimated occurrence: 15 per 100 000 live births. About 15 children are born yearly in Sweden.

Etiology: Unknown.

General symptoms: Low birth weight and premature birth are common. The term VACTERL is an acronym with each letter representing the first letter of the organ in which the anomaly may occur.

V	Vertebral (vertebrae, bones of the spinal column)
A	Anorectal (anus /rectum)
C	Cardiovascular (heart)
T	Tracheal (windpipe)
E	Esophageal (tube connecting the throat to the stomach))
R	Renal (kidney)
L	Limb (arms/ legs)

The diagnosis is made if anomalies occur in at least three of the above groups. Other anomalies may also occur, for example hydrocephalus and choanal atresia

Orofacial/odontological symptoms:

Feeding difficulties are common in children with breathing difficulties, heart defects and esophageal atresia. Some children therefore need to be fed enterally during infancy or later. Gastroesophageal reflux (leakage of stomach fluids into the esophagus) and vomiting are relatively common and contribute to eating difficulties.

Orofacial/odontological treatment:

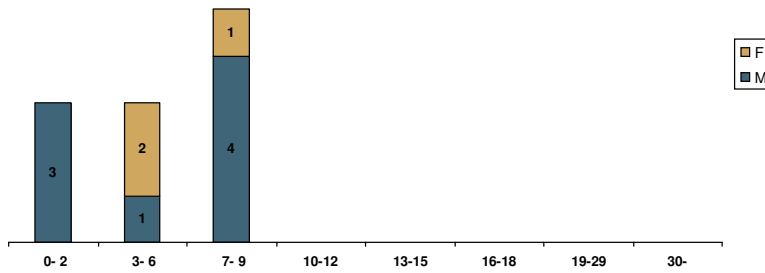
- Persons with heart defects may require antibiotic prophylaxis in conjunction with dental interventions involving oral bleeding.
- Children with eating difficulties are often in need of supplementary dental care e.g. help with oral hygiene and fluoride treatments
- Eating and swallowing difficulties should be investigated and treated by a specialist team (nutrition team or dysphagia team) at the hospital or at a habilitation unit (multidisciplinary treatment center).

Sources

The rare disease database of the Swedish National Board of Health and Welfare.

The MHC database - The Mun-H-Center database of orofacial manifestations in rare disease: Ågrenska Newsletter

Age distribution

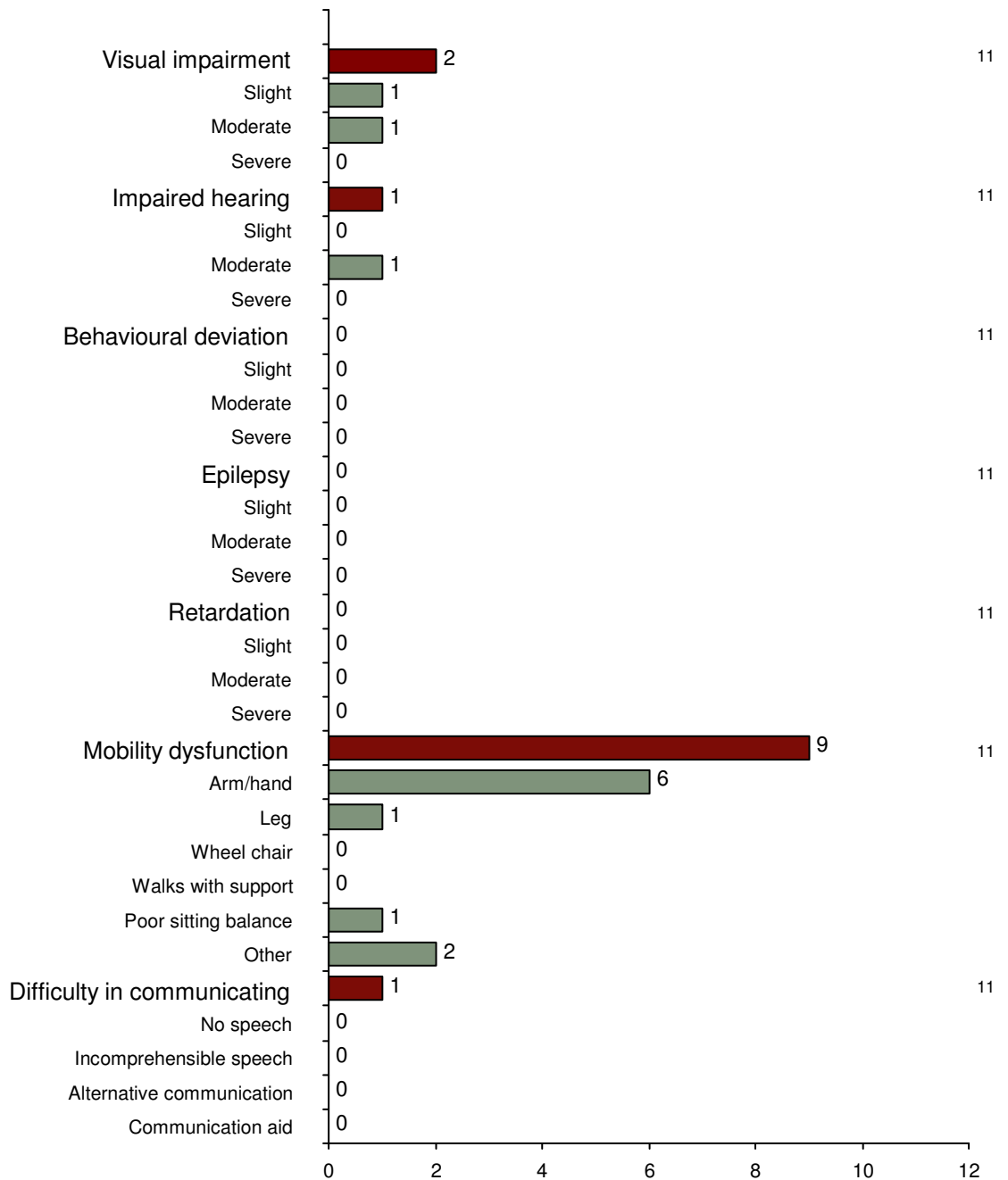


Number: 11

Ages: 1 -- 9 years

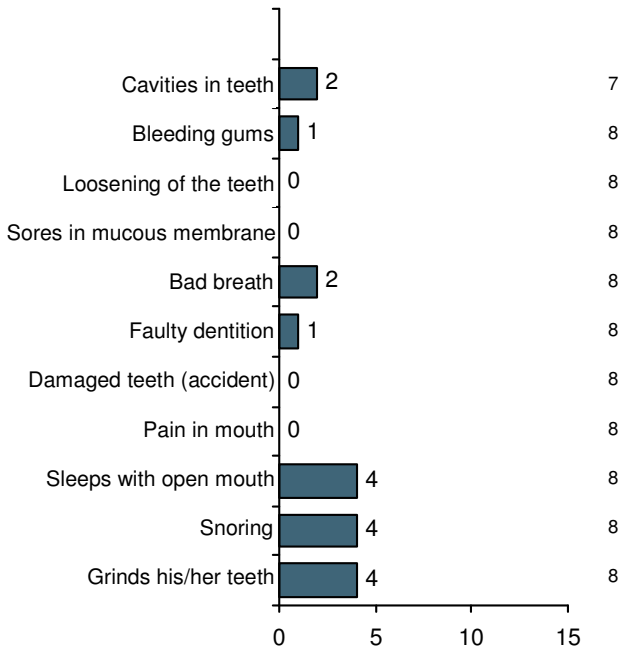
Sex: M (8) + F (3)

General disabilities

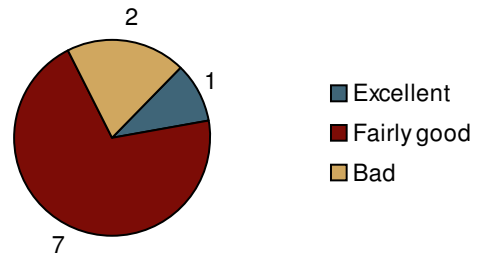


About dental health

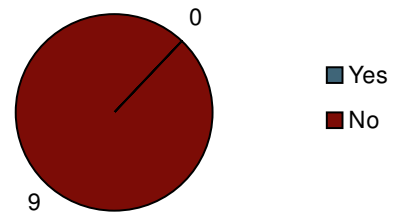
About dental health - problems



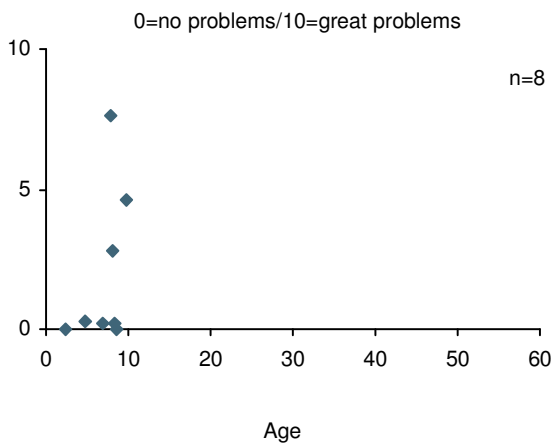
Oral health



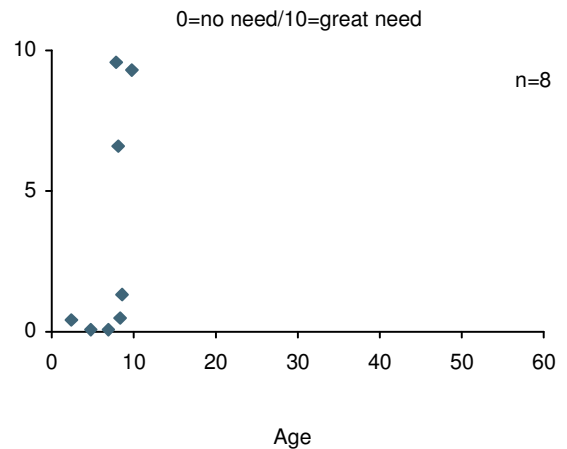
Has NN received orthodontic treatment?



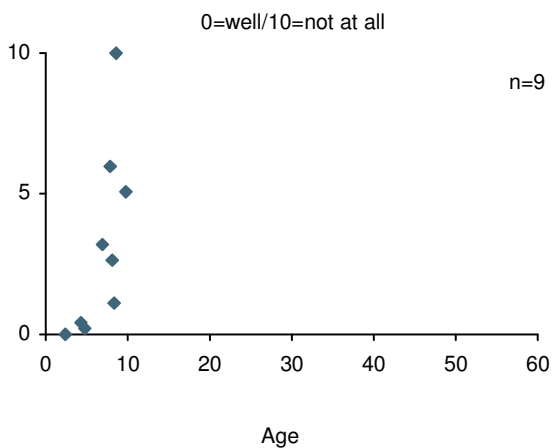
How does NN experience the dental care received?



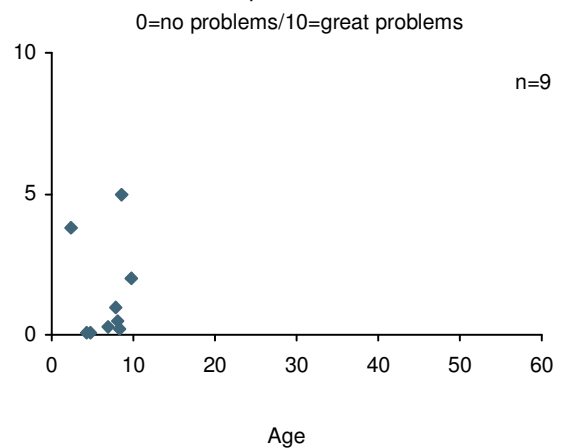
NN is considered to be in need of orthodontic treatment



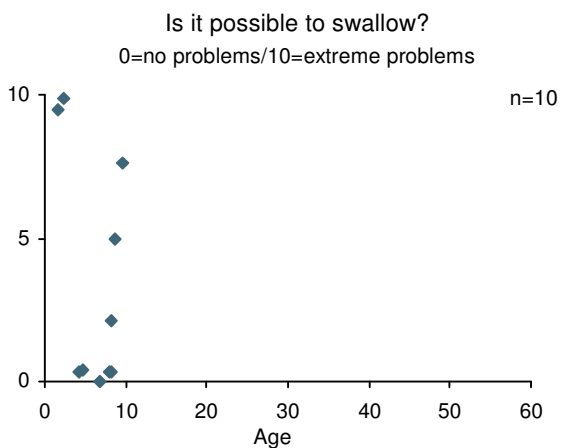
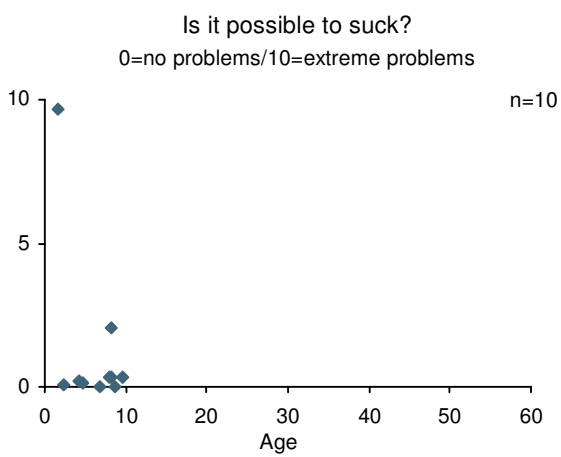
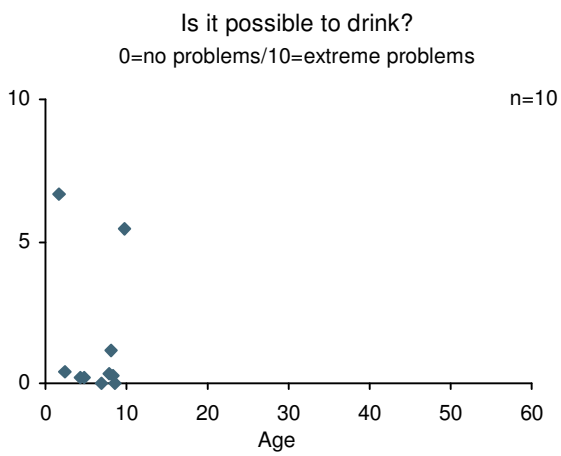
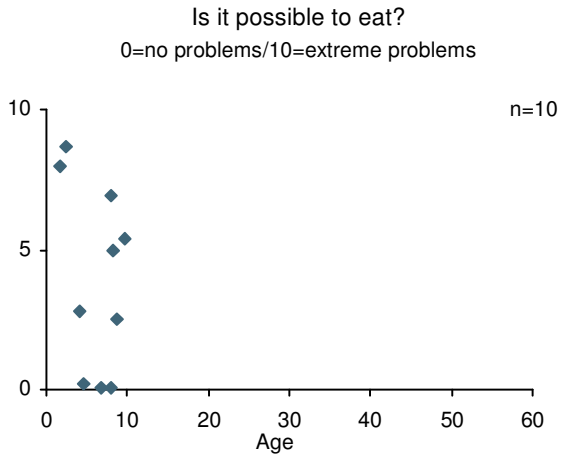
How does NN manage to brush his/her teeth?



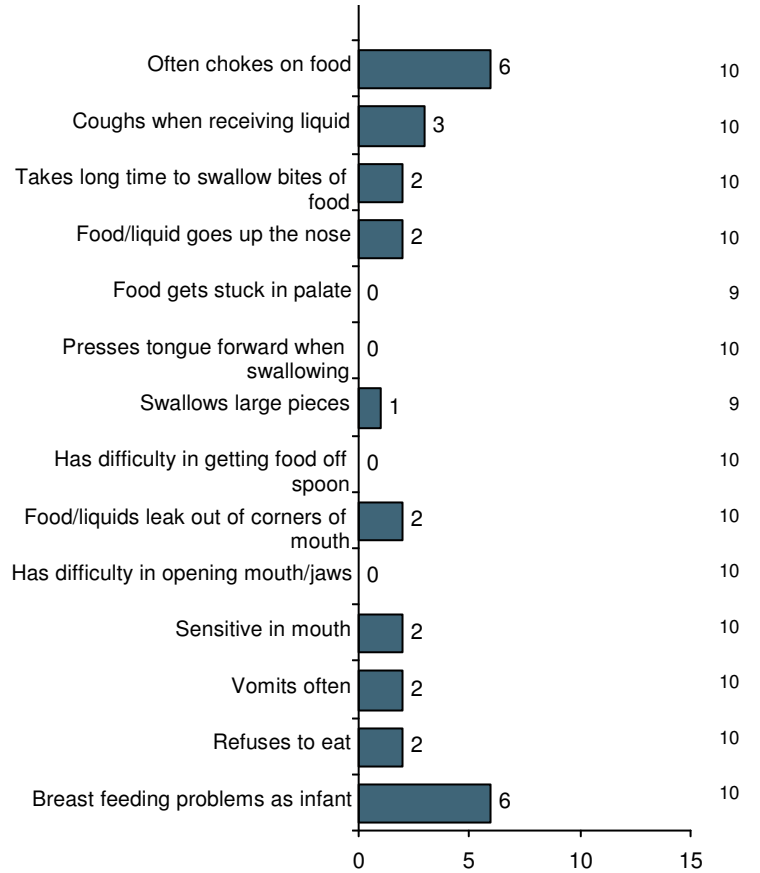
If help is needed with brushing teeth, how does it proceed?



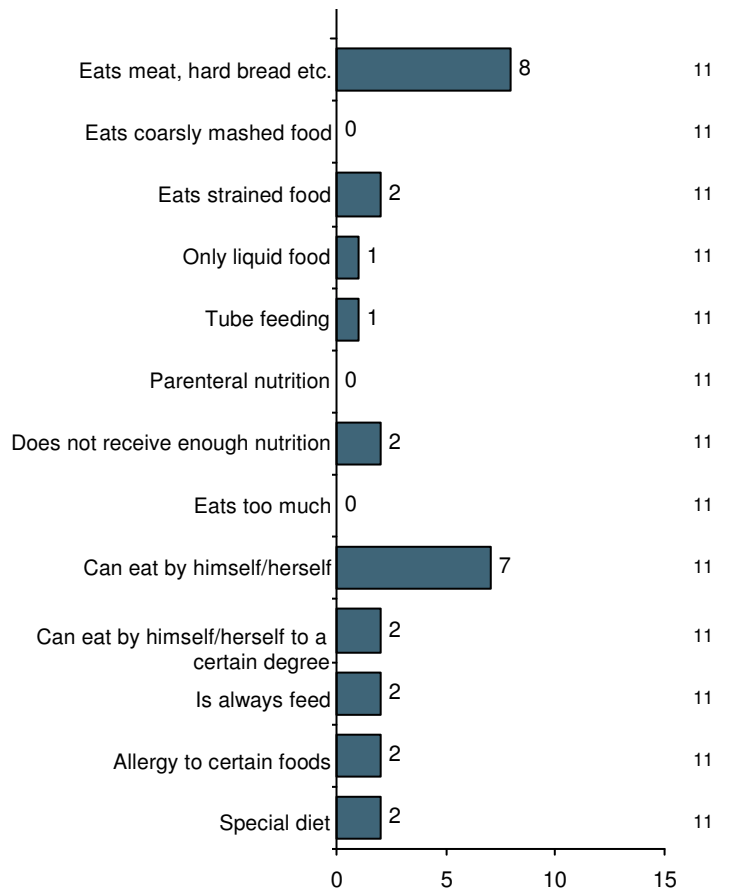
About eating habits



About eating habits - problems



Food habits



About drooling

