

Unexpected benefits of a brain computer interface program for an autistic teen with ADHD

Our study is the first to explore how brain computer interfaces (BCIs) can support confidence and social connection for an autistic teen with ADHD.



We reviewed a 15-year-old's outcomes from Holland Bloorview's Clinical BCI program, and compared them to his outcomes from non-BCI programs. His family hoped that he would find new ways to play and engage with others.

Compared to the non-BCI programs, when this teen participated in the BCI programs, he...



This teen was less interested in using the BCI at home compared to the clinic programs. It's possible that the clinic programs' clear routines, predictable activities, and opportunities to connect with others helped him stay engaged and try new things.

Every autistic person is unique. Our study suggests that some autistic youth may enjoy BCI programming, even if they already play and interact with other people.