

APPENDIX A

**PARENTS' QUESTIONNAIRE**

**1. First symptoms**

- When did you first notice something different about your child's speech?

**2. Environment**

- After stuttering onset, when did you have your first talk with friends or family about it?
- What was their initial reaction?
- What was their reaction later on?

**3. Time of first professional counseling**

- When was the first time you talked about stuttering with a professional?
- How informative was the meeting? What was the atmosphere?
- How did you react? How did you feel? What did you discover?

**4. Professional support**

- Was any professional support suggested for your child such as psychological support, special education, speech therapy or any other kind of help?
- What kind of professional help have you looked into for yourself, your child or your family?
- What kind of professionals (private or public) have helped you?  
For how long?
- How have you been kept up to date about the therapy course and

methods? How have you been included in therapy?

-What are the characteristics you expect a professional to have?

What would convince you to trust him/her? Have you found such a professional?

## **5. Stuttering as a symptom**

-Has your child's fluency changed over time?

-How would you estimate stuttering frequency?

\*Sometimes      \*Often      \*Seldom

-In what situations is your child more likely to stutter?

## **6. Parents' attitudes towards stuttering**

-Has your attitude towards your child's stuttering changed over the years?

-To what extent does your child's stuttering bother you? In what circumstances does it bother you more? In what circumstances does it bother you less?

-What are your child's characteristics without relation to stuttering?

-Do you think stuttering will disappear with time?

-What do you think has to happen in order to make stuttering disappear? (therapy; self confidence etc.)

-Can you imagine that stuttering would not disappear? What would happen then from your point of view?

-What are your feelings towards your child's stuttering today?

-Have you ever spoken with your child about stuttering? When? How?

-Have you ever used the word "stuttering"? If so, with whom? (your child; spouse or with professionals)? Do you use another word instead of "stuttering" to describe the symptoms?

-Describe your child: Is he/she introvert or extrovert, what are his/her hobbies, characteristics?

#### **7. The child's attitudes towards stuttering**

-What do you think your child's attitude towards the problem is? Does it affect his relationships with friends and school-mates?

#### **8. Family**

-Is someone in the family especially worried or stressed due to the child's stuttering? Does someone feel responsible for the stuttering?

-What do you think are the reasons for stuttering?

-Who is taking care of therapy?

-How do the child's siblings react and how are they influenced by the situation? Are their relationships with their friends influenced by the child's stuttering?

-What has changed in the family due to stuttering since its onset?

-Do you think the family can help the child cope with stuttering?

-To what extent is the child's coping influenced by the family's coping or worries about stuttering?

#### **9. The situation today**

-Who is counseling you today about specific child rearing problems?

-Who helps you in everyday education? Do you have any support? Since when?

#### **10. Rerospective**

Can you recall any critical periods you've had with your family over the years?

- Infancy
- Kindergarten
- School age
- Adolescence (junior high school)

#### **11. Looking to the future**

- Do thoughts about your child's future keep you busy? Since when?
- Do you have specific plans for him/her? Have you taken any steps towards implementation of these plans?

#### **12. Additions**

- Do you feel like adding something to the conversation with regard to the family, therapy, school or society?
- Do you have any suggestions, recommendations or ideas to add?

#### **13. Self reappraisal**

- How do you think you and your family are coping with stuttering?