

Results

experimenters did not analyze whether the therapist may have had an impact on treatment outcomes. As such, it is difficult to ascertain whether improvements were solely attributable to AAPT or whether the therapist may have also played a role. A quantitative observation scale was created to determine SB and NSB outcomes. The coders were selected ahead of time, blinded, and had high inter-coder agreement between both SB and NSB. However, this coding system was created by the experimenters, therefore, it is not clear whether the construct of the tool itself is valid. Weaknesses reported by the authors include a small sample size, which likely led to the non-significant outcome in their group comparison. Lastly, the overall sample size for this study was small and had a limited range in age amongst participants. As such, the sample is likely not a good representation of the general ASD population.

Overall, based on the low number of participants and the non-significant group comparisons, this study offers an equivocal level of evidence that AAPT does not result

communication abilities, gains were not statistically significant.