



Speech communication tools used for children with hearing impairment in France

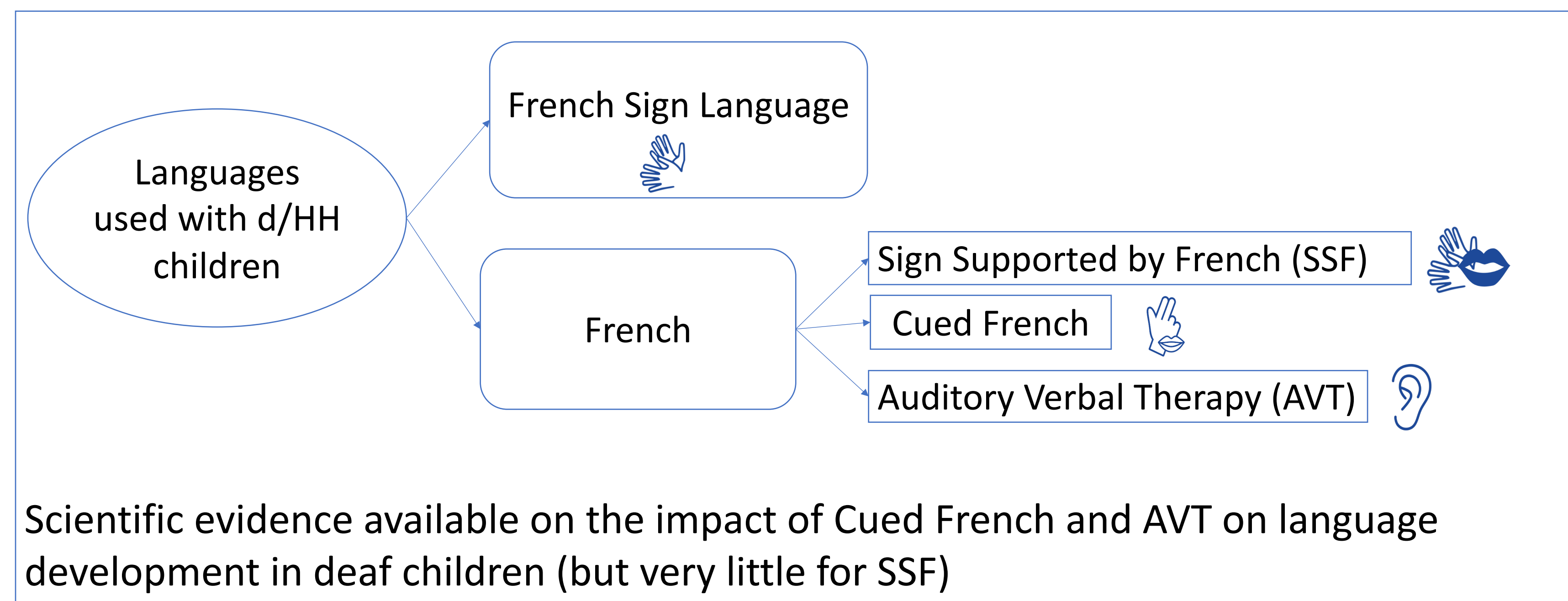
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Workshop Comm4CHILD – 13/12/2021

CONTEXT



AIMS

- Make an overview of the communication tools used with deaf children in France
- Compare the use of three tools to support spoken language development vs. vs.

METHOD

2 online surveys

Professionals caring for deaf children

- Personal information
- Professional information
- Information on their use of different communication tools
- Information about parental support

Parents of a deaf child

- Personal information
- Information about their deaf child
- Information on their use of different communication tools
- Satisfaction

PARTICIPANTS

Professionals caring for deaf children

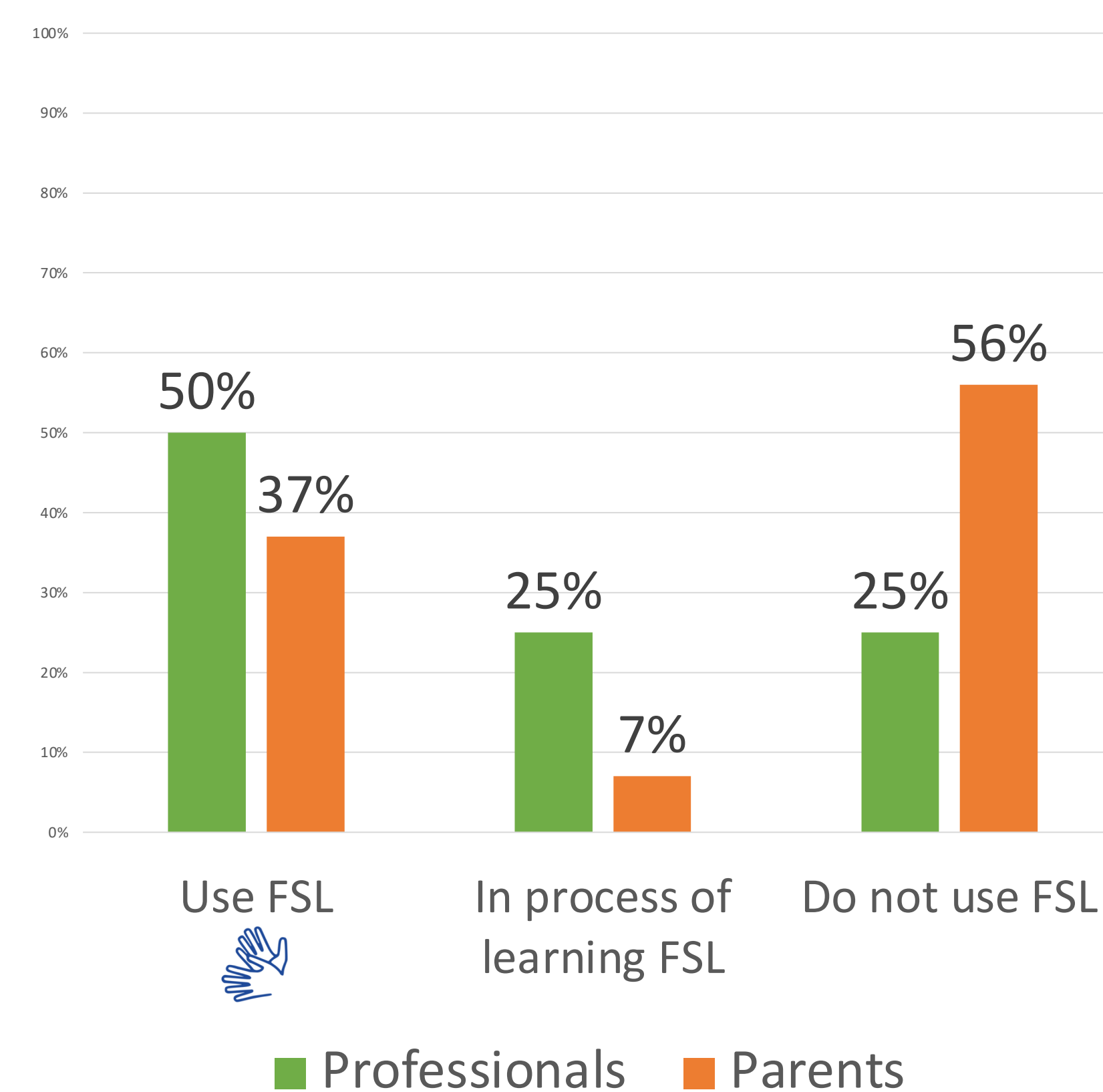
- N = 246
- 20 to 70 years old
- Profession: speech and language therapists, specialised teachers, educators, psychologists, psychomotor therapists, cued french transliterator or ENT doctors
- Different working environment
- Graduation year: between 1974 & 2020

Parents of a deaf child

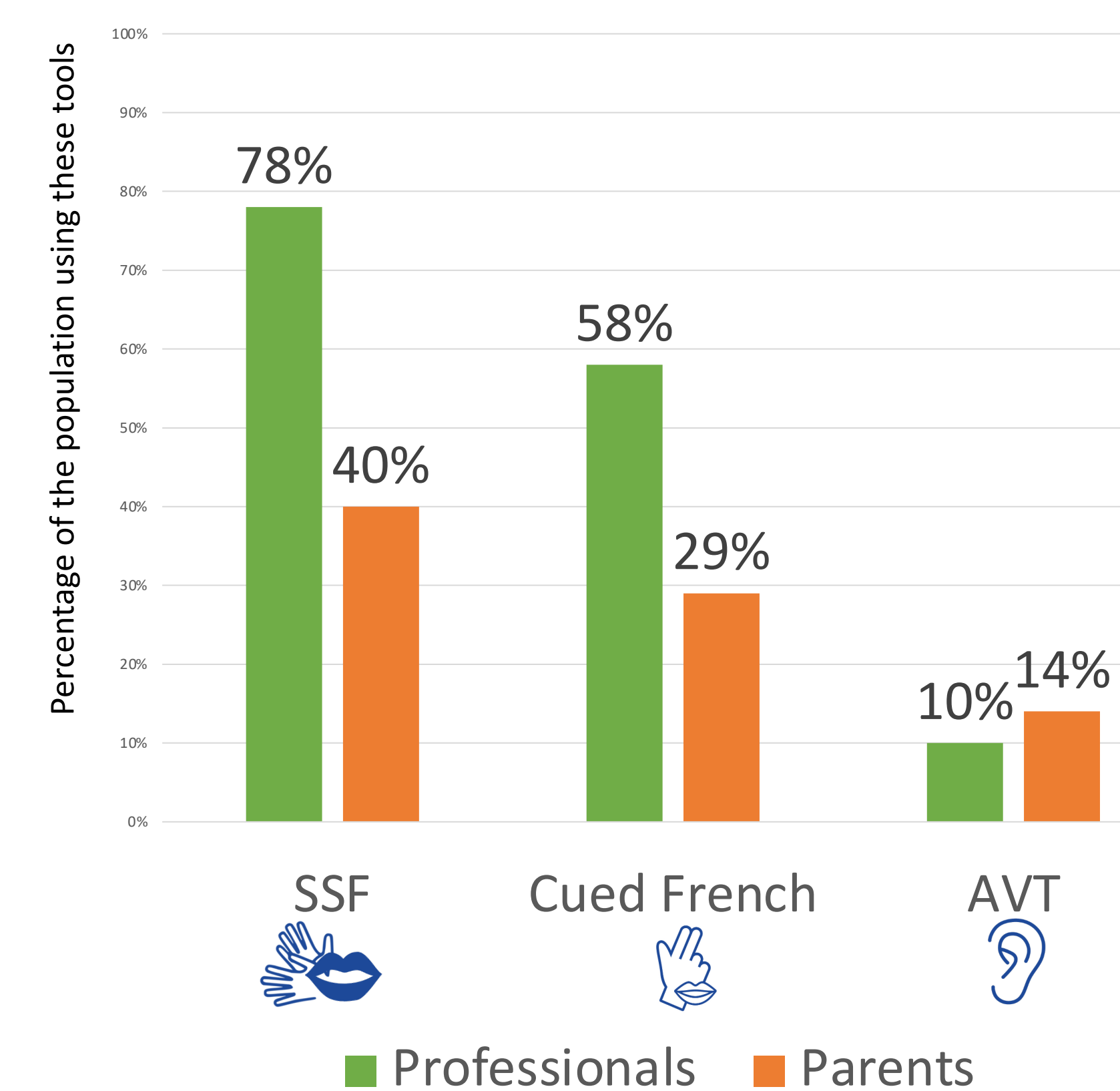
- N = 220
- Children : 0 to 18 years old
- Language used at home: French (68%), FSL (9%), French + FSL (23%), other (3%)
- Education: mainstream (57%), specialised (12%), specialised + mainstream (17%) or not yet in school (10%)
- 24% with associated disorders
- 91% with 2 hearing parents
- 90% with hearing aids (CI/HA)

RESULTS

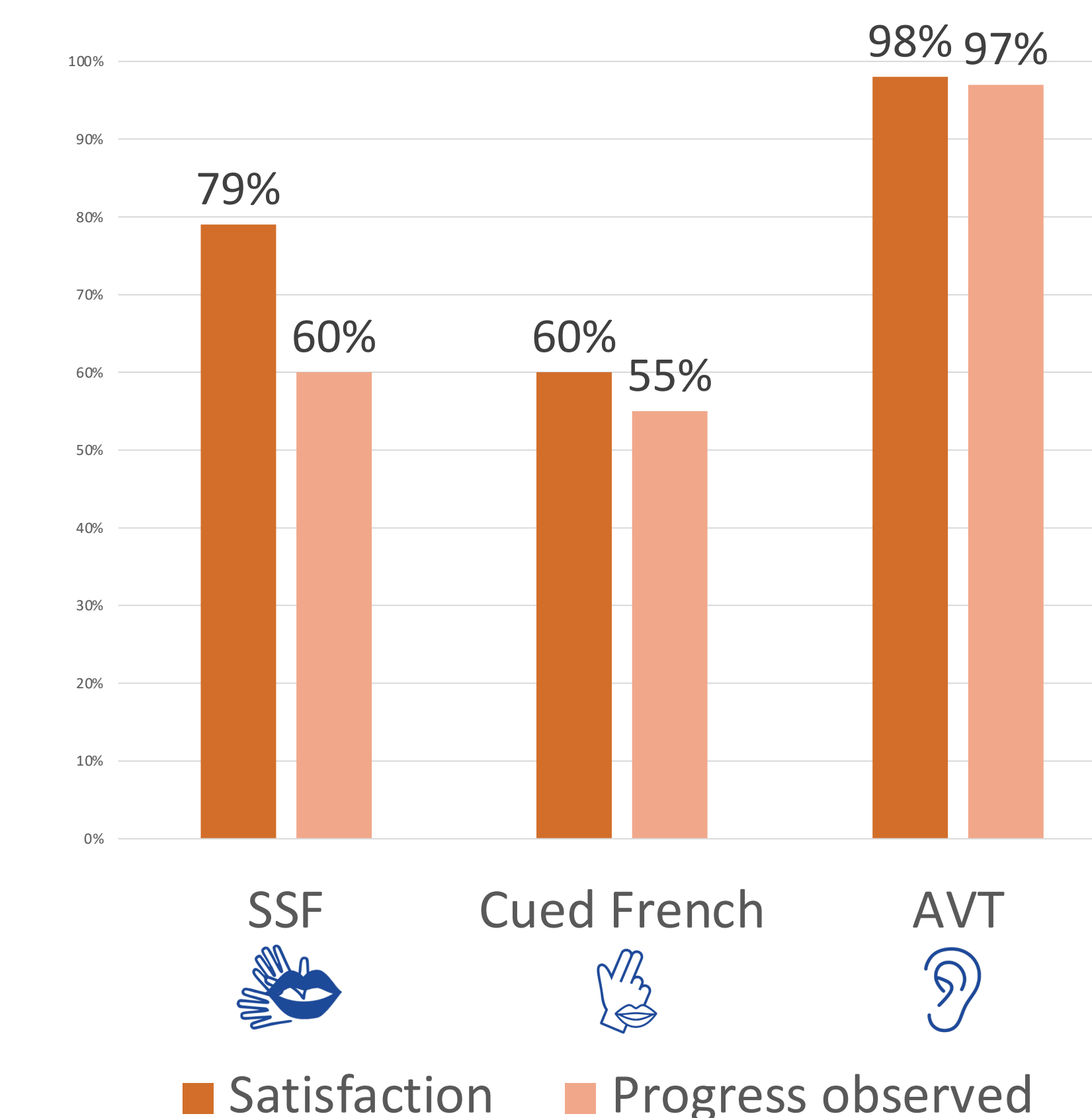
Use of French Sign Language (FSL) for professionals & parents



Use of tools supporting the development of spoken French for professionals & parents



Satisfaction & language improvement observed by parents



36% of parents do not use any tools at home

CONCLUSION

- FSL -> used by half of professionals and a third by parents
 - SSF = 1st most used tool (mainly by professionals)
 - Cued French = 2nd most used tool (mainly by professionals)
 - AVT very little used + more used by parents than by professionals + parents using AVT are more satisfied and notice more language improvement
- Scientific evidence ≠ effective use of tools in clinical & by parents

PERSPECTIVES

Follow up: Quantitatively measure the impact of AVT on spoken language development + compare language abilities of children exposed to AVT vs Cued French

Measurements: Verbal memory span (digits) and visual memory span (Corsi), Sentence production (ELO), Picture Naming task, Pseudoword repetition, Lexicality judgment, phonological awareness

Participants: Children between 5 and 11 years. Either into AVT program or exposed to Cued French

Long-term goal:

provide evidence-based recommendations for speech rehabilitation, academic support and parents of deaf children

REFERENCES

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 Bergeron, F., Berland, A., Demers, D., & Gobeil, S., Contemporary Speech and Oral Language Care for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Children Using Hearing Devices. *Journal of Clinical Medicine*, Vol. 9/2, 2020

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