

Predictors of mental health and behavioural crises in children and youth with neurodevelopmental disorders

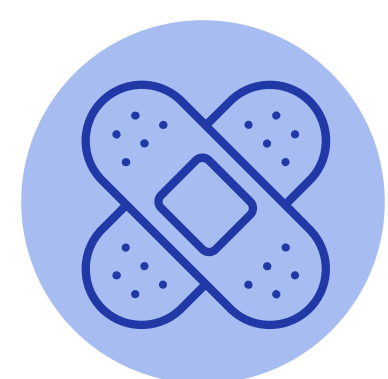
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1) Bloorview Research Institute

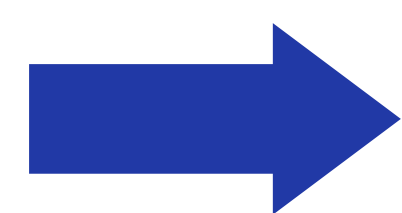
2) Carleton University

Background

Children and youth with neurodevelopmental disorders (NDDs) experience:



Increased incidence of aggression, self-injury, & suicidal ideation¹



Higher rates of crises, resulting in hospital visits & police calls²

Research Question

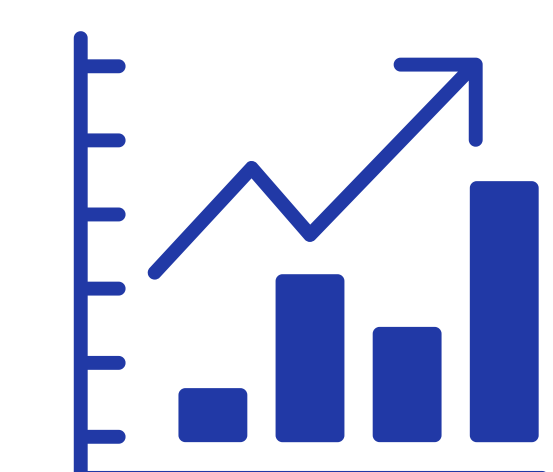
What are the predictors of mental health/behavioural crises in children and youth with NDDs?

Methods



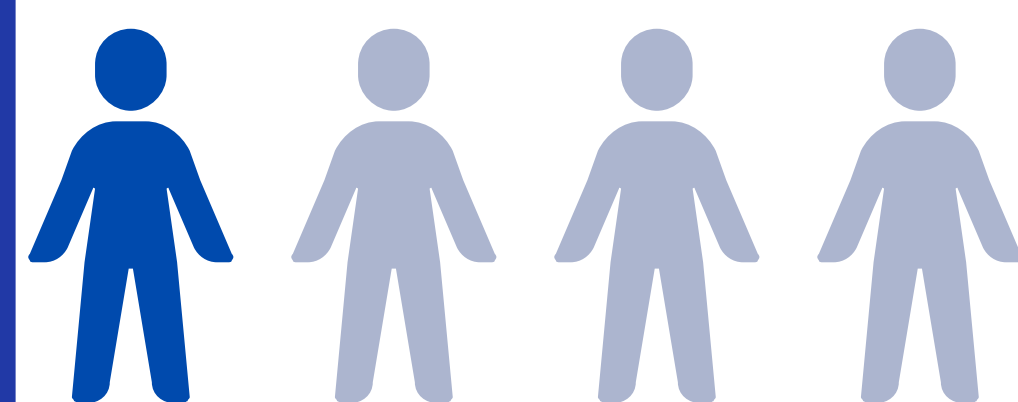
Designed survey to collect patient demographic, clinical, and environmental data

Collected longitudinal data from 270 psychopharmacology clinic patient charts



Performed cox proportional hazards regressions to identify predictors of mental health and behavioural crises

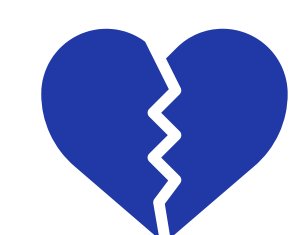
Results



25% of patients experienced a mental health or behavioural crisis

Crisis Predictors

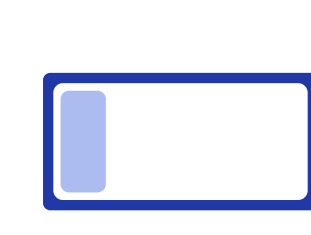
Variable	Hazard Ratio 95% CI	p
Sex	1.87 (0.91, 3.87)	0.09
Age at visit	1.05 (0.97, 1.14)	0.22
Intellectual disability	1.17 (0.77, 1.77)	0.46
Financial barriers	3.33 (2.19, 5.07)	<0.001
Caregiver burnout	4.73 (3.04, 7.36)	<0.001
Childhood trauma	4.28 (2.82, 6.50)	<0.001



Childhood trauma



Financial barriers



Caregiver burnout

Impact

Better understanding of crisis predictors



Preventative mental health care for youth with NDDs

References

1.Giannouchos TV, Beverly J, Christodoulou I, Callaghan T. Suicide and non-fatal self-injury-related emergency department visits among individuals with autism spectrum disorder. *Autism* 2023;27(7):1983-1996. DOI:10.1177/13623613221150089
2.Schott W, Tao S, Shea L. Emergency Visits for Autistic Children and Children With ADHD. *Pediatrics* 2022;149(Suppl 4):e2020049437V. DOI:10.1542/peds.2020-049437V



Social factors significantly predict mental health & behavioural crises in children and youth with neurodevelopmental disorders



Holland Bloorview

Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation