Investigating predictors of participation from pre-school to school age in children with cerebral palsy

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Methods

The Clinical Database Platforms of CP-NET recruit children with CP from hospitals and rehabilitation centres across Ontario.

Data Collection (n = 252)

Participation and psychosocial data is collected at 2 time points

T1) At entry: 2 years to 5 years and 11 months

T2) At ages 7 to 8

Preliminary Results

Factors associated with decreased overall participation

From univariate analyses:

Associated Factors
• Higher Baseline Pain
• Lower Family Income
• Lower Functional Ability (i.e. Higher GMFCS)

Non Associated Factors
• Ethnicity
• Sex

Discussion

✓ Children with CP participate less frequently within their community compared to in their home.

✓ Univariate analyses suggest higher baseline pain, lower family income and functional ability are associated with decreased participation.

Future Directions

✓ A multivariate analysis will inform a more complex model for participation.

✓ Findings will help in creating early intervention feasibility pilot study to promote participation in young children with CP.

Acknowledgements

This research is funded by the Ontario Brain Institute. The CP-NET Team would like to acknowledge and thank the families that have contributed to this project.

Background

• Participation is the context in which people can play and engage within their home and community.1

• Children with CP engage in more home-based and quiet recreation compared to their typically developing peers.2

Objectives

• Few studies have completed complex predictor models for participation in CP.

• Recent research has examined participation at one time point however few have examined how participation changes over time.1

Participation in children with CP may be reduced, particularly in their community as they age from pre-school to school age. Child and family factors related to CP can impact how and where children are able to participate.

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