

Research and Knowledge Transfer Priorities in Developmental Coordination Disorder: Results from Consultations with Multiple Stakeholders

Camden et al. (2019)
<https://doi.org/10.1111/hex.12947>

For which topic were research priorities identified?

developmental coordination disorder

In which location was the research priority setting conducted?

North America - Canada

Why was it conducted at all?

Developmental coordination disorder (DCD), a condition characterized by coordination difficulties that develop early on and impact on children's daily lives, is an area where a CBRP could be particularly beneficial. It is well recognized that there is a general lack of awareness about the condition, and that there is inequitable access to the services. These services are however required to address the issues these individuals face such as academic difficulties, lower quality of life and poor peer relationships. Best practices for DCD stress the need for collaborative work and capacity building to increase equitable access to services and raise community awareness. Community-based research partnerships could thus well support the implementation of DCD best practices by bringing to gather different stakeholders to advocate and design interventions aiming at increasing community awareness and access to services. In the light of the lack of information in the scientific literature regarding the development of a DCD CBRP, it would seem prudent to begin the partnership by identifying the DCD priorities for KT and for research, based on different stakeholders' perspectives, and to explore stakeholders' interest for engaging in a research partnership.

What was the objective?

to identify the developmental coordination disorder research and knowledge translation priorities of stakeholders in Quebec, Canada, and their perceptions regarding the implementation of a community-based research partnership

What was the outcome?

a ranking list of 5 research questions

How long did the research prioritization take?

12 months

Which methods were used to identify research priorities?

group discussion; survey

How were the priorities for research identified exactly?

Step 1: survey: with a predefined list of 16 research and 12 KT priorities, participants were asked to select their top five research and KT priorities and to rate the importance of optimal CBRP condition. Step 2: 4 group discussions: preliminary survey findings presented and discussed

Which stakeholders took part?

Parents of children with DCD, adults with DCD, health professionals, school staff. Survey: 395 participants (44% parents). Group discussion: 15 parents, 30 healthcare professionals, 3 education professionals, 4 adults with DCD.

How were stakeholders recruited?

Participants were DCD stakeholders living in the province of Quebec, Canada at the time of the study. Anyone above 18 years old having an interest in DCD was eligible to participate. Participants were categorized into one or more stakeholder groups: parents of a child with DCD, adults with DCD, health-care and education professionals, and 'others' such as community-based stakeholders (eg day care staff, sport coaches) and researchers. Research participants were recruited via social media, an email campaign and word-of-mouth, in collaboration with an advisory committee and study partners. The online survey was circulated to potential participants online via social media, the advisory committee and project partners.

Were stakeholders actively involved or did they just participate?

Stakeholders not only participated but were also actively involved in the research prioritization process: They were part of an advisory board. The advisory board consisted of 9 members: 3 parents, including 1 studying to become a special education teacher, 1 young adult with suspected DCD, and 4 clinicians including 2 involved with the parent association and 1 completing a graduate degree. Members oversaw the process. They met in 8 online meetings, and reviewed the online survey.