

Knowledge Translation in the digital age.

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Overview: Translating key research findings to both consumers and clinicians is an important component of research. Digital platforms now provide a trackable means of evaluating engagement with consumers and clinicians. We aimed to evaluate the efficacy of a digital pilot platform based on the Knowledge Translation Planning Template©. We found that website analytical tracking enables researchers to evaluate knowledge translation strategies of consumers by reviewing behaviour and engagement. Whilst educational content is helpful, training knowledge translation champions in key sectors can facilitate practice and behaviour change.

Play based, interdisciplinary locomotor training for pre-school aged children with cerebral palsy addresses individual activity and participation goals.

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Overview: Optimising engagement during locomotor training (LT) for pre-school aged children can be challenging. Play based and interdisciplinary interventions have the potential to facilitate participation in locomotor training (LT). We aimed to determine the feasibility of intensive LT embedded within a play based interdisciplinary framework in pre-school aged children with cerebral palsy with a Gross Motor Function Classification System (GMFCS) level of III to V. Our results support the feasibility, acceptability, practicality and potential efficacy of LT embedded within a play based interdisciplinary environment for pre-school aged children with CP. Though the dosage may have been inadequate to generate a significant change in functional mobility measures, the intervention met individually specific activity and participation goals.

Is Robotic Assisted Gait Training more effective than PWBT alone? A randomised controlled trial

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Overview: Utilising Robotic Assisted Gait Training (RAGT) is an attractive option that has the potential to enhance engagement for children as well as to reduce the human resource requirements that are usually needed for locomotor training. We aimed to determine if the addition of RAGT enhances functional mobility compared to Partial Weight Bearing Training (PWBT) alone for children with cerebral palsy, Gross Motor Function Classification System (GMFCS) level III to V in a randomised controlled trial. The addition of RAGT can be utilised if there are specific goals to improve lying and rolling and higher level gross motor skills. Given that both groups demonstrated improvements over time, clinicians can implement PWBT with functional mobility gains with more easily accessible equipment.