



## Completed OCTC Research Projects

OCTC grows with every research project completed. Most research projects have a direct impact on clinical practice. Clinicians enjoy the opportunities to get involved in clinical research related to their practice. With every research project, clinicians enhance their research skills and raise awareness about evidence-based practices.

Investigators	Title of Project	Purpose of Project	Research Impact on Clinical Approach	Funding Source	Dissemination (publication, presentation)
Jocelyn-Barden Underhill, Amita Furgoch (OCTC), Jean Ju (OCTC), Pascal Lefebvre (U. of Ottawa) & Leslie Walker (OCTC)	The Match Between Current Service Supply and Demand Regarding AAC and Literacy Intervention and the Needs of School Age Children with Severe Speech and Physical Impairments (SSPI): Descriptions From Initial Survey	To describe how current service supply and demand regarding AAC and literacy intervention complies to the needs of children and youth in the Ottawa area with SSPI and English as a primary language.	With literacy and AAC clients, gaps in writing and reading skills were identified. Now researchers are investigating how to inform and enhance teachers' knowledge with AAC users.	OCTC Clinical Research Grant	Poster: ISAAC 2012 Poster: OACRS 2013



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<p>Amita Furgoch (OCTC), Tara Previl (OCTC) &amp; Rose Martini (U. of Ottawa)</p>	<p>Predictors of abandonment of voice recognition technology in children and adolescents with physical disabilities</p>	<p>To identify factors that may influence abandonment of voice recognition systems (including characteristics of the user &amp; characteristics of the system)</p>	<p>The researchers/therapists found that there is not one solution for all, offering a tool kit and options to families was a better option.</p>	<p>OCTC Clinical Research Grant</p>	<p>Presentation:          OACRS Conference Oct 2008, ATIA Conference Jan 2010, CAOT Conference June 2010, CAOT Conference 2013          Publication: Van Schyndel, R., Bhargava Furgoch, A., Previl, T., Martini, R. The experience of speech recognition software abandonment by adolescents with physical disabilities. <i>Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology</i>. Posted online on January 30, 2014.  <a href="http://informahealthcare.com/doi/abs/10.3109/17483107.2014.883651">http://informahealthcare.com/doi/abs/10.3109/17483107.2014.883651</a></p>
<p>Jane Heintz-Grove &amp; Kelley Drummond</p>	<p>An Evaluation of the Ottawa Children's Treatment Centre's Getting Started Service</p>	<p>To examine whether the Getting Started Service (GSS) program is meeting their stated goals. The project will look at the effectiveness of GSS by examining parent satisfaction with the service and whether GSS contributes to increased parental self-efficacy using a</p>	<p>GSS has been expanded to all sites of OCTC and is currently offered to all clients referred to OCTC.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Poster presentation: CAHPC, Oct 2011.          Presentation: OACRS conference, Nov 2011.</p>



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		pre-post design.			
Marie Brien (OCTC), Heidi Sveistrup (U. of Ottawa)	An intensive virtual reality program improves balance and functional mobility of adolescents with cerebral palsy	To investigate whether an intensive short duration virtual-reality based intervention program improves balance and functional mobility in adolescents with CP in GMFCS level I	An intensive virtual reality (VR) program provided daily for a 1-week period can improve balance and functional mobility in children and youth with CP.	OCTC Clinical Research Grant	<p>Publication:          Brien, M. &amp; Sveistrup, H. (2011) An Intensive Virtual Reality Program Improves Functional Balance and Mobility of Adolescents With Cerebral Palsy. <i>Pediatric Physical Therapy</i>, Volume 23- Issue 3- p. 258-266.</p> <p>Conference: Sept 2010, AACPDM Annual Meeting in Washington D.C.</p> <p>Poster: Oct 2010, ACRM in in Montréal.          Conference: May 2011, <i>Journée annuelle en physiothérapie pédiatrique</i>, l'Institut de réadaptation en déficience physique de Québec (IRDPQ)</p>
Josée Séguin (OCTC) & Heidi Sveistrup (U. of Ottawa)	Seating and Mobility Systems: The Development of an Outcome Measure	To develop & validate a bilingual tool to measure satisfaction with prescribed seating & mobility equipment.	The Outcome Measure created helps to ensure that clients are getting what they asked for in their seating system.	Consortium national de formation en santé (CNFS)	Poster: CAPHC conference Oct 2011.
Jean Ju (OCTC), P. Humphreys & Janet Olds	Cognitive outcomes of children with periventricular leukomalacia (PVL)	To examine the cognitive skills of children with CP & PVL	The results help clinicians interpret the psychological findings to parents, taking PVL into account	None	Presentation: OACRS Conference 2009



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Kathleen Moreau, Ann Marcotte & Anna Buchanan	Program evaluation of the out of home respite service	To identify any areas in the program that need improvement and development	Reviewed programming and scheduling	Reviewed programming and scheduling	Presentation: OACRS Conference October 2008
Jean Ju (OCTC), Rose Martini (U. of Ottawa), Jane Ledingham, Paulette Guitard & Heidi Sveistrup (U. of Ottawa)	The exploration of playfulness in a playgroup of children with physical disabilities	To characterize the playfulness among 3-to-5 year old children with physical disabilities.	The results help clinicians understand that physical disability alone is not the deciding factor for playfulness; rather, communication and cognitive skills are.	None	Presentation: OACRS conference October 2008
Jean Ju (OCTC), Rose Martini (U. of Ottawa), Jane Ledingham, Paulette Guitard & Heidi Sveistrup (U. of Ottawa)	How do children with physical disabilities play?	To characterize the play behaviours among preschoolers who have physical disabilities	The results help clinicians understand the type of play that children with physical disabilities display.	None	Presentation: OACRS conference October 2007
Linda Kealey (OCTC) & Antoinette Megens (OCTC)	Impairment, activity, participation: Effective goal setting for children with cerebral palsy and lower limb botulinum toxin injection	To explore treatment goals prior to botox injection, and treatment outcomes after injection with Botox. To explore clinician goals versus family goals.	Effective goal setting for PT treatment after injection with Btx-A includes functional goals that are of importance to the child and family.	In kind funding for research time provided by OCTC	Conference: World Physiotherapy Congress, June 2007.
Antoinette Megens (OCTC) & Linda Kealey (OCTC)	Functional Evaluation of Botulinum Toxin Type A in Non	To determine short and longer term outcomes after injection with Botox	Effective goal setting for PT treatment after injection with Btx-A includes functional	Physiotherapy Foundation of Canada	Conference: World Physiotherapy Congress, June 2007.



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	Ambulatory Children with Cerebral Palsy	and PT program for children with cerebral palsy	goals that are of importance to the child and family.		
Janette McDougall (Thames Valley Children's Centre), Virginia Wright (Bloorview Research Institute) & Linda Miller (Western U.).  Marie Brien (Interviewer, OCTC site)	The Impact of Personal, Interpersonal, and Environmental Factors on changes in Quality of Life for Youth with Chronic Conditions	To assess the quality of life of children and youth who receive rehabilitation services in terms of their life satisfaction or overall perceived life quality.	Identifying subjective and objective factors related to one's quality of life provides insight to best support an individual's treatment plan in regard to new or different types of supports or services.	Canadian Institutes of Health Research	McDougall, J., Baldwin, P., Evans, J., Nichols, M., Etherington, N., & Wright, V. (2015). Quality of life and self-determination: Youth with chronic health conditions make the connection. Applied Research in Quality of Life. Early Online. DOI: 10.1007/s11482-014-9382-7 <a href="#">Open Access: LINK to PDF VERSION</a>
Roselle Adler (OCTC), Tara Previl (OCTC)	TechKids and TechTeens: Introducing technology today to create greater independence tomorrow	To provide an intensive week long program for children and youth to explore, learn and integrate Assistive Technology (AT) in a realistic context. Camp objectives include; learning how to direct own care using AT, in-depth assessment and/or intensive training of AT use, peer interaction using AT, combining mobility and communication AT	The TechKids and TechTeens camp allowed for comprehensive clinical observations regarding campers' fatigue levels, attention span, motivation and usage of AT in various environments. It also served to expedite the process for assessment and training with AT. As such, clinicians ascertained if AT prescription was warranted, if further training was required, if	Telus Foundation	Poster at the American Academy of Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine Annual Meeting, San Diego, California, September 2014. Poster at Ontario Association of Children's Rehabilitation Services (OACRS), Toronto, ON, November 2014.



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		therapy goals in a fun and realistic context, transdisciplinary teamwork within AT program, community interaction with new people and environments using AT.	changes to the existing AT should be considered to improve function, or if re-assessment and training should be re-considered in the future. The camp also provided opportunity for thorough screening of potential client referrals to OCTC's AT Program. This screening process contributed to future planning for AT equipment and staffing resources, and decision making regarding waitlist management.		
Doreen Bartlett (McMaster U.), Sarah (Sally) Westcott McCoy (U. of Washington), Liz Vile (OCTC site supervisor)	CanChild On Track Study – Monitoring Development of Children with Cerebral Palsy or Gross Motor Delay	To describe and track the changes in balance (a primary impairment), range of motion limitations, strength, and endurance (secondary impairments), number and impact of health conditions, and participation in self-care, recreation, and leisure activities over a one-year period in young children with	Tracking changes in function will help to develop reference percentiles so that therapists can assist families to determine if children with CP are developing as expected, better than expected, or more poorly than expected, depending on their functional ability levels.	Canadian Institutes of Health Research; Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute	Jeevanantham, Deepa MPT; Dyszuk, Emily MSc; Bartlett, Doreen PT, PhD. The Manual Ability Classification System: A Scoping Review. Pediatric Physical Therapy: Fall 2015 - Volume 27 - Issue 3 - p 236-241 ( <a href="#">online</a> )



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		CP aged 18 months through 11 years			
Ann Sutton, (University of Ottawa) Susan Mendelsohn (OCTC)	<i>"Relationships among tasks involving graphic symbols and speech as input and as output"</i>	To better understand use and interpretation of graphic symbol utterances among users of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems.	This study yielded a large amount of data regarding the use of graphic symbols that continues to be analyzed and interpreted for presentations and papers. These research findings have implications to better understand voice output and listener feedback to AAC devices.	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (ISSHRC)	Daou, M., Trudeau, N. & Sutton, A. (2014, November). <i>Relationships among tasks involving graphic symbols and speech as input and as output</i> . American Speech-Language-Hearing Association meeting, Chicago, IL.  Additional publications in process.