



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

# Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences

*College of Nursing and Health Professions*



The Pediatric Rehabilitation Intervention  
Measure of Engagement (PRIME) team

## Engagement in the Pediatric Rehabilitation Intervention Process: Its Nature, Measurement, and Role in the Determination of Outcomes

### **Investigators**

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### **Summary / Overview**

The engagement of children and youth with disabilities, and their parents, in rehabilitation interventions is critical to the success of these therapies. A fully engaged client is actively invested in the intervention session. He or she is receptive to what is happening, shares thoughts and experiences, and shows enthusiasm. She/he is also actively involved in a physical and behavioral sense. Client engagement has long been considered to enhance goal attainment and increase the cost-effectiveness of services; however, there are no measures of client engagement

that have been created or validated for use in pediatric rehabilitation. Accordingly, research on the best ways of fostering engagement and its predictive value with respect to outcomes and costs has been hampered.

## **Objectives**

Our comprehensive research program will (a) ascertain from children, youth, parents, and service providers the nature of child/youth/parent engagement in pediatric rehabilitation interventions, (b) result in reliable and valid measures of the engagement of children/youth and parents that will apply to any type of pediatric rehabilitation intervention, and then (c) examine the predictive utility of these measures with respect to child/youth outcomes.

## **Impact**

This practice-based research will inform and potentially change service providers' views and practice with respect to understanding, measuring, and optimizing client engagement. Through use of engagement principles in the design and delivery of interventions, it has the potential to increase client satisfaction, enhance outcomes, and reduce service costs.

## **Funding**

Canadian Institutes of Health Research

## **Participating Sites**

The study is being conducted through collaboration among: Holland Bloorview Kids' Rehabilitation Hospital and Research Institute, Drexel University, University of Queensland, and Temple University. Children's hospitals, rehabilitation centers, and early intervention programs are partnering with our research team to assist with recruitment of participants and data collection.

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## **Contact Us**

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