Implementation of Clinical Practice Guidelines of Eye-Gaze Control Technology for People with Cerebral Palsy: Barriers and facilitators identified by clinicians

Introduction

In this study we identified clinicians' perceptions of barriers and facilitators to the use of the Clinical Practice Guidelines for Eye-Gaze Control Technology (CPG-EGCT), and resources to support assessment, tailor intervention, and enhance decision-making about EGCT.

Method

A two-phased mixed methods explanatory sequential design (online survey) identified clinicians' perceptions of the CPG-EGCT, and the findings further explored (online focus groups) and analysed using a reflective thematic content analysis.

Conclusion

This study contributes by identifying barriers and enablers to implementing the CPG-EGCT, and the resources needed to enhance implementation in practice and outcomes for people with cerebral palsy.

Results

97 survey responses were received, (response rate=17.2%). Respondents were predominately speech pathologists (66%), female (89%), mean age 42 years (SD=11). Four speech and language therapists and one occupational therapist attended online focus groups.

Survey results: Most agreed with the content (92%) and believed the CPG will improve service delivery (96%) and improve outcomes (88%). The main barrier to implementation was lack of time (n=16); and main facilitators ease of use (n=10) and having time to read the CPG-EGCT (n=7).

Focus group results: Four themes were identified: Complexity of learning to use and implement EGCT; Time and resources; Teamwork; and CPG informing practice. Resources to support implementation were in-person training; online modules; clinical discussion; and case studies.

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