

## Studies

[What are the views of adults with an intellectual disability \(AWID\), carers and healthcare professionals on a community falls management programme for AWID: a qualitative interview study in the UK](#)

The aim of this study was to refine a draft of the ACTION FALLS LD programme based on the views of adults with an intellectual disability (AWID), carers and healthcare professionals (HCPs).

[Suicide risk in transition-aged autistic youth: The link among executive function, depression, and autistic traits](#)

Autistic individuals are at significantly higher risk of suicide than non-autistic individuals, with transition-aged youth at potentially the highest risk. While lower executive function (EF) skills have been significantly associated with suicide risk in other clinical samples, the link between EF and suicidality has not yet been examined for autistic individuals.

[Occurrence and predictors of lifetime suicidality and suicidal ideation in autistic adults](#)

In the past 40 years, accumulating evidence suggested that autistic individuals are at an increased risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviors. This study examined the occurrence of various potential risk factors for lifetime suicidal behavior and suicidal thoughts in the past month in a Dutch cohort (Netherlands Autism Register) of autistic individuals using the Suicidal Behaviors Questionnaire (SBQ-R) and the Suicidal Ideation Attributes Scale (SIDAS).

[Effects of Brief Parent Coaching on the Communication Skills of Preschoolers With Autism Spectrum Disorder and Limited Verbal Ability](#)

The publicly funded early intervention program for preschoolers with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in Nova Scotia, Canada, uses the pivotal response treatment (PRT) model. Parents are coached in use of PRT strategies during their children's first week of treatment. We explored whether parents of older preschoolers with limited verbal ability learned to implement PRT strategies with fidelity after brief coaching and whether PRT strategy use was associated with gains in children's communication skills.

[High-Probability Request Sequence to Increase Compliance of Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Meta-Analysis](#)

Non-compliance is a challenge for practitioners serving children with and without disabilities. Many interventions have been developed to increase compliance. High-probability request sequences (HPRS), an antecedent-based intervention that is based on behavioral momentum theory, is one way to increase compliant behavior. HPRS includes the presentation of two-to-five easy or known tasks with a high probability of compliance immediately before requesting tasks with a low probability of compliance.

[School participation of autistic youths: The influence of youth, family and school factors](#)

Many autistic youths experience restricted school participation. The present study investigated the influences of youth, family and school factors on autistic youths' school participation.

['Who, When, How to Share': Pilot study of a new disclosure decision-making programme for autistic adults](#)

In this pilot study, we report on the feasibility, acceptability and potential impact of 'Who, When, How to Share', a new disclosure decision-making programme for autistic adults.



### [Which factors accompany maternal acceptance-rejection in children with specific learning disabilities?](#)

Children with specific learning disabilities (SLDs) and their parents experience many problems that may influence their interactions. The study aimed to evaluate the maternal acceptance/rejection status of children with SLDs and their associations with sociodemographic characteristics, and problem behaviors.

### [Strategies for addressing the needs of children with or at risk of developmental disabilities in early childhood by 2030: a systematic umbrella review](#)

There are over 53million children worldwide under five with developmental disabilities who require effective interventions to support their health and well-being. However, challenges in delivering interventions persist due to various barriers, particularly in low-income and middle-income countries.

### [Differentiation of the body build and posture in the population of people with intellectual disabilities and Down Syndrome: a systematic review](#)

The aim of the study was to identify the variables of the internal compensatory mechanisms that differentiate the body build and posture of people with Down syndrome (DS) from the intellectual disability (ID) population. It was assumed that gaining knowledge in the abovementioned aspect will allow for a better understanding of the limitation of the kinesthetic abilities of people with ID and DS and simultaneously enable to optimize the process of planning and interventions to improve physical activity in this population with the adequate use of their strengths in the biomechanical and morphofunctional systems.

## News

### [Disability Action Plan "unlikely to bring about change" for people with learning disabilities, charity says](#)

The learning disability charity Mencap says the government's Disability Action Plan "does not address the most pressing issues" facing people with a learning disability and is "unlikely to bring about change." While the charity has welcomed some of the initiatives, it says the plans fail to address issues such as access to social care, healthcare, employment, and cost of living support.

### [Patient Safety Commissioner calls for redress for valproate victims](#)

The Patient Safety Commissioner (PSC) has published a report calling for redress for those harmed by the epilepsy medication valproate, which causes physical and neurodevelopmental disorders in 40% of babies exposed to the drug during pregnancy.

### [Warwickshire councillors apologise following 'derogatory' SEND comments](#)

Three councillors from Warwickshire County Council have issued apologies after they made "derogatory" remarks about children with SEND during a council meeting.

### [Shortage of educational psychologists causing significant delays for EHC Plans](#)

The Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman is warning that a national shortage of educational psychologists is having a 'profound impact' on children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families. The shortage is causing significant delays for parents trying to get an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan put in place for their child.

### [Local councils need extra £4 billion to fund services for disabled people](#)

Local councils will be unable to keep up with demand for services for disabled children and adults unless the Government fixes the £4 billion hole in council funding arrangements, according to a new report from cross-party Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (LUHC) Committee.

### [How technology is revolutionising our approach to autism therapy](#)

Anthony Fager, Board Certified Behaviour Analyst with Circle Care Services, delves into how technology is changing the game for children with autism, and how it is not just about screen time, but the right use of technology that can make a significant impact.

### [Council policies and the right to independent living](#)

In early February, Bristol Council dropped their Fair and Affordable Care Policy after a campaign led by Bristol Reclaiming Independent Living (Bril), with local and national supporters.

### [Young Ambassador Pavan on School Absenteeism](#)

Recently the Department for Education launched a campaign to promote school attendance. The campaign, which aims to address the growing numbers of students persistently missing school has faced criticism for failing to address many of the reasons why some students are unable to attend school, including a lack of the right support and being unable to secure a place in a suitable school.

### [Parliament welcomes six employees with Down's syndrome into new roles](#)

Six new employees who have Down's syndrome are now working in the Palace of Westminster as part of a pioneering programme. The Speaker, Sir Lindsay Hoyle, has welcomed the new recruits and says their appointment to paid positions is "long overdue".

### [The social worker advocating for people with learning disabilities](#)

When speaking to Elaine James, her passion for upholding the rights of people with learning disabilities is almost infectious.