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Global Outlook: Community-based Rehabilitation Benefits Adolescents With Cerebral Palsy

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Introduction

Moving from paediatric to adult care, a period known as the “transition period,” is a critical time for people with cerebral palsy (CP), especially adolescents (ages 16-25) who require one-on-one support. During the lockdown, when institutions like hospitals and schools closed, CP individuals who relied on speech and language therapy (SaLT) and well-being services could not easily access therapy (1, 2).

This posed the question of whether institutions like hospitals are suitable for adolescents with CP – leading us to **compare community and institution-based environments** in the **Global North and South**.

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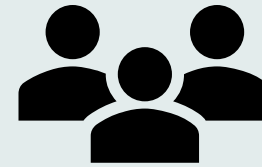


Our Approach

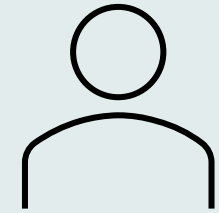
- We designed three surveys for...



Clinicians



Carers of CP
Individuals

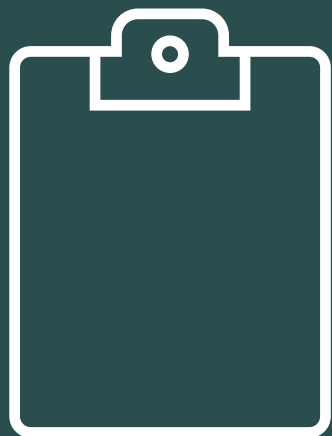


CP
Individuals

- And globally distributed the surveys across...



Please scan to see the surveys





Our Findings

Accessibility

- CP Individuals in the Global South have better access to rehabilitation services than the Global North.

Example.

Average time to reach nearest rehabilitation centre.



Saltcoats (Scotland), Rural



60+ minutes



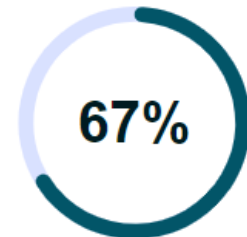
Baniban (India), Rural



11 – 20 minutes

Environment

Speech and Language Therapy.

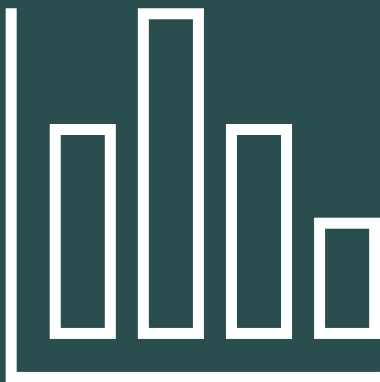


Of adolescents were more comfortable in the community and not in the institutions (37%), reporting that the environment helped improve their well-being.

Well-being Support.



All adolescents were comfortable when receiving well-being support in the community. Whereas many of them disagreed (22%) that they were comfortable receiving care in an institution.





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For more information, please get in touch with the research project supervisor via the email above.

Acknowledgements

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References

(1) Boyle, P., Vuoskoski, P., Stew, G. and Galvin, K.T. 2022. Transitioning from adolescence to adulthood for young people living with cerebral palsy: a meta-ethnography. *Disability & Society*. 37(2), pp.231-253.

(2) Shakespeare, T., Watson, N., Brunner, R., Cullingworth, J., Hameed, S., Scherer, N., Pearson, C. and Reichenberger, V. 2022. Disabled people in Britain and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. *Social Policy & Administration*. 56(1), pp.103-117.

Ethics

The University of Leeds Ethics Committee has approved this undergraduate research project.