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Research Category

Clinical

Abstract Title

Centering Youth and Family Advisor Feedback in Emergency Settings: Strengthening Bottom Line Recommendations

Authors

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Will they participate in the poster presentation at CHRD?

Yes

What is their name?

Luigi Conia

Background

Translating Emergency Knowledge for Kids (TREKK) supports the rapid integration of the latest evidence in children's emergency care to emergency healthcare settings across Canada. Reflecting a commitment to meaningful engagement with users of this evidence (e.g., healthcare providers, families), TREKK embedded youth and parent feedback into their guidelines for the development of healthcare provider (HCP) resources in 2023.

Objective

To strengthen emergency HCP tools, TREKK works alongside youth and families to co-develop resources, informing more accessible, relevant, and patient-centered clinical tools.

Methods

Between October 2023 – August 2026, the TREKK team worked with the Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba's (CHRM) Research Advisory Council (RAC) and Research Advisory Council for Youth (RACY) to strengthen a series of clinical resources known as Bottom Line Recommendations (BLR). Engagement methods included regularly connecting and capacity building with advisors via an experienced patient engagement coordinator. After engagement, TREKK's knowledge broker compiled, incorporated, and sent feedback to authoring HCPs for final approval.

Results

RAC and RACY have worked with TREKK to develop over 20 BLRs. In our most recent collaboration, advisors informed the Pain Management and Procedural Pain BLRs. Advisors with lived experience of neurodivergence recommended highlighting greater caregiver involvement, clear explanations of procedures, strategies to build trust and comfort, and considerations for differences in pain perception in neurodivergent children. Across all 20 collaborations, advisors have provided key feedback around appropriate language and approaches to use with children and families belonging to a diverse group of communities.

Conclusion

This collaboration continues, serving as a meaningful example of how youth and parent engagement can shape and improve emergency HCP resources, highlighting the value of reciprocity and relationships in resource development. Next steps include an evaluation of the collaboration process, focused on the

experiences of youth and family advisors and HCPs.