



Research Bulletin

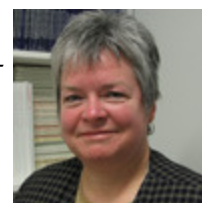
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Pain in people with developmental disabilities: A scoping review

Dr. Bev Temple and colleagues have undertaken a scoping review on the topic of assessing and treating pain in people with developmental disabilities (DD). People with DD unfortunately lack equal access to pain assessment in the health care system as pain is normally assessed using self-report. Practitioners therefore have difficulty assessing pain for people with DD, and have reported evidence of needless suffering due to fractures, bowel obstructions, and cancer.



Dr. Bev Temple

In a scoping review, researchers systematically examine the literature for all papers written about a specific subject. This review will identify: (1) relevant theory, evidence and gaps in knowledge; (2) barriers to pain assessment; (3) behaviors associated with pain in this population; and (4) appropriate pain assessment tools. The team's findings will contribute to the future implementation of relevant pain assessment tools useful to care providers to improve the quality of care provided to people with DD. Results will be shared widely with care providers, families and community agencies providing service to people with DD through web pages, e-mail notices and presentations and papers.

This study is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research as part of their Knowledge Synthesis Grant program.

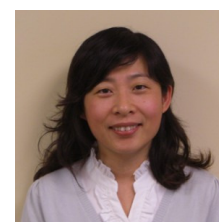
The **St. Amant Research Centre** is dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities through research and education.

We acknowledge the generous support of

- University of Manitoba faculties of Nursing, Human Ecology, and Arts.
- The Winnipeg Foundation
- St. Amant Foundation

Welcome Lisa Zhang

Lisa Zhang has joined the St. Amant Research Centre team as our new Research Support Officer. We're already benefitting from her valuable experience in supporting other research teams at the University of Manitoba. Many readers will have a chance to meet Lisa as she helps us to coordinate future projects and endeavours. Welcome to the team!



Lisa Zhang

St. Amant as a context for knowledge translation

A study is underway to learn more about St. Amant, the largest provider of services to persons with developmental disabilities in Manitoba, as a context for knowledge translation (KT). The study objectives are:

(1) to engage knowledge users throughout the organization to discuss their views of the value of research, and

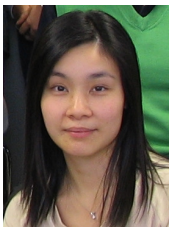
(2) to stimulate discussion of the factors that facilitate and impede knowledge use in the organization.

We will hold a series of meetings with multiple types of decision-makers within St. Amant. Prior to meetings, administrators, program leaders, and nurses will complete a self-assessment form related to knowledge use. Each meeting will begin with a short presentation of the concepts surrounding successful KT activities. Participants will be invited to describe their top research priorities as well as factors that facilitate or impede knowledge use. Resident care aides and physicians will also be asked to discuss their use of research findings in terms of four main topics: (1) acquiring information, (2) assessing the reliability of information, (3) adapting information for their use, and (4) applying information within this organization.

It is important to gather and understand these data because effective knowledge translation has the potential to greatly enhance the benefits of research, and to promote more effective health care services for all Manitobans living with a developmental disability.

This research is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. To learn more, please contact Toby Martin <tmartin@stamant.mb.ca>.

Does Practice Always Help Learning a Skill?



May Lee

PhD student May Lee will soon begin an important new project at St. Amant Research Centre.

May's goal is to discover the types of tasks for which repeatedly practicing the correct response following an error promotes learning. Understanding this issue will help teachers to improve their methods for teaching many kinds of skills to individuals with developmental disabilities.

To learn more about this project, please visit: <http://stamantresearch.ca/practice>

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