TITLE: Occupational Therapy, Physical therapy, or Speech Language Pathology for Infants: Clinical Effectiveness, Cost-Effectiveness, and Guidelines

DATE: 09 January 2017

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of occupational therapy, physical therapy, or speech language pathology assessments or care for infants in hospital?

2. What is the cost-effectiveness of occupational therapy, physical therapy, or speech language pathology assessments or care for infants in hospital?

3. What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding the provision of occupational therapy, physical therapy, or speech language pathology assessments or care for infants in hospital?

KEY FINDINGS

One evidence-based guideline was identified regarding the provision of occupational therapy, physical therapy, or speech language pathology assessments or care for infants in hospital.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library, University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. No methodological filters were applied to limit retrieval by publication type. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2012 and December 23, 2016. Internet links were provided, where available.
SELECTION CRITERIA

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.

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<th>Table 1: Selection Criteria</th>
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<td>Population</td>
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<td>Intervention</td>
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<td>Comparator</td>
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| Outcomes | Q1: Clinical benefits and harms (e.g., identification of abnormalities, impact on infant functioning or behaviours [e.g., feeding, sleeping, interactions with parents and caregivers])  
Q2: Cost-effectiveness outcomes (cost per health benefit)  
Q3: Evidence-based guidelines |
| Study Designs | Health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, economic evaluations, evidence-based guidelines |

RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, economic evaluations, and evidence-based guidelines.

One evidence-based guideline was identified regarding the provision of occupational therapy, physical therapy, or speech language pathology assessments or care for infants in hospital. No relevant health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, non-randomized studies, or economic evaluations were identified.

Additional references of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized Controlled Trials
No literature identified.

Non-Randomized Studies
No literature identified.

Economic Evaluations
No literature identified.
Guidelines and Recommendations


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**APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:**

**Clinical Practice Guidelines – Methodology Uncertain**


**Additional References**

