

Meeting families where they are: A supportive approach to understanding diversity of family context to achieve optimal outcomes

Families constitute the most influential context especially in the early years, so it is important that we do not underestimate the importance of families as collaborative partners in systems of care for children who are D/deaf or hard of hearing (Dd/HH). In order to provide best practices in family-centered early intervention (FCEI) we must consider the child in context, the parent in context, the interaction of child-parent and context, keeping in mind that human development occurs over time and we aim to achieve desirable and favorable outcomes from our early hearing detection and intervention (EHDI) programs.

The objective of this presentation is to offer additional insight on best practices in FCEI by providing a discussion focusing on the importance of understanding the diversity in family contexts within our EHDI programs. The presentation will emphasize that in order to design and deliver effective support and intervention(s) for a child who is Dd/HH and their family, we must understand more than the impairment, activity limitations and participation restrictions of the child, we must understand the child's everyday life situations and the context of their everyday listening situation(s). In doing this we can then use systematic processes to define and work within context to assist clinicians, organizations and policy-makers to understand what to do to support a child and their family over time to achieve desirable, valued and favorable outcomes.

Presenter:

Sheila Moodie, PhD
Associate Professor
Western University, School of Communication Sciences & Disorders and
The National Centre for Audiology
London, ON
Canada

Contact Information:

Sheila Moodie, PhD
Western University, The National Centre for Audiology
1201 Western Road, Elborn College Rm 2262K
London, ON
Canada
N6G 1H1
TEL: 519 661 2111 x88259
sheila@nca.uwo.ca

Lab Information

The Family-Centred Early Intervention Lab at Western University

www.uwo.ca/nca/fcei