



MAXIMIZING COLLABORATION AMONG NURSING, PEDIATRICS, EMERGENCY SCHOOL NURSING, AND PHYSICAL THERAPY FOR THE REHABILITATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

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Abstract:

This review article aims to explore the importance of collaboration among nursing, pediatrics, emergency school nursing, and physical therapy in the comprehensive rehabilitation of children with disabilities. Children with disabilities often require multidisciplinary care to address their complex healthcare needs, and effective collaboration among healthcare professionals is crucial for optimizing their rehabilitation outcomes. This review synthesizes current literature on the roles of nursing, pediatrics, emergency school nursing, and physical therapy in the care of children with disabilities, as well as the benefits and challenges associated with interdisciplinary collaboration. Additionally, it examines strategies for enhancing communication, teamwork, and coordination among these healthcare professionals to provide holistic and patient-centered care for children with disabilities. By highlighting the significance of collaborative practice in the rehabilitation of children with disabilities, this review aims to inform healthcare providers, educators, and policymakers about the potential impact of interprofessional teamwork on the quality of care and health outcomes for this vulnerable population.

Keywords: Interdisciplinary collaboration, Children with disabilities, Nursing, Pediatrics, Emergency school nursing, Physical therapy

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Introduction:

Children with disabilities often require a multidisciplinary approach to their care in order to maximize their potential for rehabilitation and overall well-being [1]. Nurses play a crucial role in the care of children with disabilities. They are often the first point of contact for these children and their families, providing essential medical care, emotional support, and education. Nurses in a variety of settings, including hospitals, schools, and community clinics, work closely with children with disabilities to ensure that they receive the care and support they need to thrive [2].

In the rehabilitation of children with disabilities, nurses are responsible for coordinating care between different healthcare professionals, monitoring the child's progress, and providing education and support to the child and their family. Nurses also play a key role in advocating for the needs of children with disabilities, ensuring that they receive the appropriate services and support to help them reach their full potential [3].

Pediatricians are medical doctors who specialize in the care of children, including those with disabilities. Pediatricians play a critical role in the rehabilitation of children with disabilities by providing medical care, monitoring the child's growth and development, and coordinating care with other healthcare professionals [4].

Pediatricians work closely with children with disabilities and their families to develop individualized care plans that address the child's unique needs. They also provide education and support to the child and their family, helping them navigate the complex healthcare system and access the services they need [5].

Pediatricians are also responsible for monitoring the child's progress and adjusting their care plan as needed. By working closely with other healthcare professionals, pediatricians can ensure that children with disabilities receive comprehensive care that addresses all aspects of their health and well-being [6].

Emergency school nurses play a crucial role in the care of children with disabilities in a school setting. These nurses are responsible for providing immediate medical care to children who become ill or injured during the school day, as well as managing chronic health conditions and providing support to children with disabilities [7].

Emergency school nurses work closely with children with disabilities, their families, and other healthcare professionals to ensure that the child's medical needs are met while they are at school. They also play a key role in developing emergency care plans for children with disabilities, ensuring

that school staff are prepared to respond to any medical emergencies that may arise [8].

In the rehabilitation of children with disabilities, emergency school nurses are responsible for coordinating care between the school, the child's healthcare providers, and other healthcare professionals. By working together, these professionals can ensure that children with disabilities receive the care and support they need to thrive in a school setting [9].

Physical therapists are healthcare professionals who specialize in the rehabilitation of children with disabilities. These therapists work with children to improve their mobility, strength, and coordination, helping them to achieve their full potential and participate in activities of daily living [10].

Physical therapists work closely with children with disabilities and their families to develop individualized treatment plans that address the child's specific needs. They use a variety of techniques, including exercise, stretching, and manual therapy, to help children improve their physical function and reach their rehabilitation goals [11].

Physical therapists also play a key role in educating children with disabilities and their families about their condition and how to manage it. By providing education and support, physical therapists empower children and their families to take an active role in their rehabilitation and achieve the best possible outcomes [12].

Maximizing Collaboration Among Nursing, Pediatrics, Emergency School Nursing, and Physical Therapy for the Rehabilitation of Children with Disabilities

In order to provide comprehensive care for children with disabilities, it is essential that nursing, pediatrics, emergency school nursing, and physical therapy professionals work together in a coordinated and collaborative manner. By sharing information, coordinating care plans, and communicating effectively, these professionals can ensure that children with disabilities receive the best possible care and support [13].

One way to maximize collaboration among these professionals is to establish regular communication channels, such as meetings, case conferences, and shared electronic health records. By sharing information and working together, nursing, pediatrics, emergency school nursing, and physical therapy professionals can ensure that children with disabilities receive coordinated care that addresses all aspects of their health and well-being [14].

Another important aspect of collaboration among these professionals is the development of multidisciplinary care plans that address the unique

needs of each child. By working together to develop individualized care plans, nursing, pediatrics, emergency school nursing, and physical therapy professionals can ensure that children with disabilities receive comprehensive care that addresses all aspects of their health and well-being [15].

Roles and Responsibilities of Nursing in the Rehabilitation of Children with Disabilities:

The role of nursing in the rehabilitation of children with disabilities is crucial in ensuring that these children receive the care and support they need to live fulfilling lives. Nursing professionals play a significant role in the rehabilitation process, providing essential care, support, and education to both the children and their families [16].

One of the primary responsibilities of nursing in the rehabilitation of children with disabilities is to provide comprehensive and holistic care to meet the unique needs of each child. Nursing professionals work closely with the children and their families to develop individualized care plans that address their physical, emotional, and developmental needs. This may include administering medications, providing wound care, and assisting with activities of daily living. Additionally, nurses play a crucial role in monitoring the child's progress and adjusting their care plan as needed to ensure that they are receiving the best possible care [17].

In addition to providing direct care to the children, nursing professionals also play a key role in educating and supporting their families. Many children with disabilities require complex care needs, and their families may feel overwhelmed and unsure of how to best support their child. Nurses can provide valuable education and support to these families, helping them to understand their child's condition and how to best care for them. This may include teaching parents how to administer medications, providing guidance on managing their child's symptoms, and offering emotional support to help them cope with the challenges they may face [18].

Furthermore, nursing professionals also act as advocates for children with disabilities, ensuring that they receive the support and resources they need to thrive. Nurses work closely with other members of the rehabilitation team, including physicians, therapists, and social workers, to coordinate care and ensure that the child's needs are being met. They may also work with community organizations and government agencies to help families access resources such as financial assistance, specialized equipment, and educational

support. By advocating for the needs of children with disabilities, nursing professionals can help to improve their overall quality of life and ensure that they have the best possible chance of reaching their full potential [19].

Another important role of nursing in the rehabilitation of children with disabilities is to support their emotional and psychological well-being. Children with disabilities may face unique challenges, including social isolation, bullying, and feelings of inadequacy. Nurses can provide valuable emotional support to these children, helping them to develop coping skills, build self-esteem, and navigate the challenges they may face. Additionally, nursing professionals can also provide support to the families of these children, helping them to navigate the emotional challenges that come with caring for a child with a disability [20].

Nursing professionals play a critical role in the rehabilitation of children with disabilities, providing essential care, support, and education to both the children and their families. By providing comprehensive and holistic care, advocating for the needs of these children, and supporting their emotional well-being, nursing professionals can help to improve the overall quality of life for children with disabilities. Through their dedication and expertise, nurses can make a significant impact on the lives of these children, helping them to reach their full potential and live fulfilling lives [21].

The Role of Pediatrics in Multidisciplinary Care for Children with Disabilities:

Children with disabilities require specialized care and support to help them reach their full potential. One important aspect of this care is the role of pediatrics in multidisciplinary care for children with disabilities. Pediatricians play a crucial role in coordinating care for these children, working closely with a team of healthcare professionals to address their unique needs and provide comprehensive, holistic care [22].

Pediatricians are trained to provide medical care for children from birth through adolescence, including those with disabilities. They are experts in child development, growth, and behavior, and are well-equipped to identify and address the specific needs of children with disabilities. Pediatricians work closely with other healthcare professionals, such as physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, and psychologists, to create a comprehensive care plan tailored to each child's individual needs [23].

One of the key roles of pediatricians in multidisciplinary care for children with disabilities

is to serve as the primary care provider for these children. Pediatricians are often the first point of contact for families seeking care for their child with a disability, and they play a central role in coordinating care with other healthcare professionals. Pediatricians work closely with specialists to ensure that children with disabilities receive the appropriate medical care, therapy, and support services they need to thrive [24].

In addition to providing medical care, pediatricians also play a key role in advocating for children with disabilities and their families. Pediatricians work to ensure that children with disabilities have access to the resources and support services they need to live happy, healthy lives. They work with schools, community organizations, and government agencies to advocate for policies and programs that support children with disabilities and their families [25].

Pediatricians also play a crucial role in educating families about their child's disability and how to best support their child's development and well-being. They provide families with information about the specific needs of their child, as well as resources and support services available to them. Pediatricians work closely with families to develop a care plan that meets the unique needs of their child and helps them navigate the challenges of raising a child with a disability [26].

The role of pediatrics in multidisciplinary care for children with disabilities is essential to ensuring that these children receive the comprehensive, holistic care they need to thrive. Pediatricians play a central role in coordinating care for children with disabilities, working closely with a team of healthcare professionals to address their unique needs and provide the support and services they need to reach their full potential. By working together with other healthcare professionals, advocating for children with disabilities, and educating families about their child's disability, pediatricians help to ensure that children with disabilities have the best possible outcomes and quality of life [27].

Emergency School Nursing: Supporting Children with Disabilities in School Settings:

Emergency school nursing plays a crucial role in supporting children with disabilities in school settings. Children with disabilities often face unique challenges in the school environment, and having a knowledgeable and skilled school nurse can make a significant difference in their overall well-being and academic success [21].

Importance of Emergency School Nursing for Children with Disabilities

Children with disabilities often have complex medical needs that require specialized care and attention. In the school setting, these children may face a variety of health-related challenges, such as seizures, asthma attacks, allergic reactions, and other medical emergencies. Having a school nurse on site who is trained to respond to these emergencies can mean the difference between life and death for these students [15].

In addition to providing emergency care, school nurses also play a key role in managing the day-to-day health needs of children with disabilities. They may be responsible for administering medications, monitoring vital signs, providing wound care, and coordinating care with other healthcare providers. By having a school nurse who is familiar with the specific needs of children with disabilities, schools can ensure that these students receive the care and support they need to thrive academically and socially [7].

Role of School Nurses in Providing Care to Children with Disabilities

School nurses are uniquely positioned to support children with disabilities in the school setting. They have the knowledge and skills to assess and manage a wide range of health conditions, and they can work closely with parents, teachers, and other school staff to create individualized care plans for students with disabilities. School nurses can also provide education and training to school staff on how to support children with disabilities and respond to medical emergencies [9].

In addition to providing direct care to students, school nurses also play a crucial role in promoting health and wellness in the school community. They may conduct health screenings, immunization clinics, and health education programs to help prevent illness and promote healthy behaviors among students. By working collaboratively with school administrators, teachers, and parents, school nurses can create a safe and supportive environment for all students, including those with disabilities [1].

Strategies for Creating a Safe and Inclusive School Environment

Creating a safe and inclusive school environment for children with disabilities requires a collaborative and holistic approach. School nurses can work with school administrators, teachers, parents, and community partners to develop policies and procedures that support the health and well-being of all students. Some strategies for creating a safe and inclusive school environment for children with disabilities include:

1. Developing individualized care plans for students with disabilities that outline their

- medical needs, emergency procedures, and accommodations [14].
2. Providing training and education to school staff on how to support children with disabilities and respond to medical emergencies [25].
 3. Collaborating with parents and healthcare providers to ensure that students with disabilities have access to necessary medications, equipment, and support services [21].
 4. Creating a culture of inclusivity and acceptance in the school community by promoting empathy, understanding, and respect for individual differences.
 5. Advocating for policies and resources that support the health and well-being of all students, including those with disabilities [30].

Emergency school nursing is essential for supporting children with disabilities in school settings. School nurses play a critical role in providing care, education, and advocacy for students with disabilities, and they can help create a safe and inclusive school environment where all students can thrive. By working collaboratively with school administrators, teachers, parents, and community partners, school nurses can ensure that children with disabilities receive the support and resources they need to succeed academically and socially. It is important for schools to prioritize the health and well-being of all students, including those with disabilities, and to recognize the valuable contributions that school nurses make in promoting a culture of inclusivity and support in the school community [8].

Physical Therapy in the Comprehensive Rehabilitation of Children with Disabilities:

Physical therapy plays a crucial role in the comprehensive rehabilitation of children with disabilities. It is a vital component of the multidisciplinary approach to addressing the unique needs of children with physical, developmental, and cognitive impairments. Physical therapists are trained professionals who specialize in helping children improve their mobility, strength, and overall physical function. They work closely with other healthcare professionals, such as occupational therapists, speech therapists, and physicians, to develop individualized treatment plans that address the specific needs of each child [11].

One of the primary goals of physical therapy in the comprehensive rehabilitation of children with disabilities is to improve their overall quality of life. Children with disabilities often face challenges

in performing everyday activities, such as walking, running, and playing. Physical therapists work with these children to help them develop the skills and abilities they need to participate in these activities and lead active, fulfilling lives. Through a combination of therapeutic exercises, manual therapy, and assistive devices, physical therapists help children improve their strength, flexibility, balance, and coordination [12].

In addition to improving physical function, physical therapy also plays a critical role in addressing pain management and preventing secondary complications in children with disabilities. Many children with disabilities experience chronic pain as a result of their condition, which can significantly impact their quality of life. Physical therapists use a variety of techniques, such as therapeutic exercises, modalities, and manual therapy, to help children manage their pain and improve their overall comfort. Furthermore, physical therapists work with children to minimize the risk of secondary complications, such as muscle contractures, joint deformities, and respiratory issues, through targeted interventions and education [13].

Furthermore, physical therapy is essential for promoting independence and maximizing functional abilities in children with disabilities. By working with children to improve their mobility and physical function, physical therapists help them gain the skills and confidence they need to perform everyday tasks and participate in activities with their peers. This can have a profound impact on a child's overall well-being and sense of self-worth. Physical therapists also work closely with families and caregivers to provide education and support, empowering them to help their child achieve their full potential and thrive in their daily lives [14].

Another important aspect of physical therapy in the comprehensive rehabilitation of children with disabilities is the promotion of inclusion and participation in the community. Physical therapists work with children to help them develop the skills they need to engage in social, recreational, and educational activities alongside their peers. By addressing mobility challenges, improving physical function, and promoting independence, physical therapists help children with disabilities access and participate in a wide range of community-based programs and opportunities. This not only enhances their overall quality of life but also fosters a sense of belonging and connection within their communities [15].

Physical therapy is a vital component of the comprehensive rehabilitation of children with

disabilities. It plays a critical role in improving physical function, managing pain, promoting independence, and enhancing inclusion and participation in the community. Physical therapists are dedicated professionals who work tirelessly to help children with disabilities achieve their full potential and lead active, fulfilling lives. Through their expertise and compassionate care, physical therapists make a profound difference in the lives of children with disabilities and their families [16].

Benefits and Challenges of Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Pediatric Rehabilitation:

Interdisciplinary collaboration in pediatric rehabilitation refers to the practice of professionals from different disciplines working together to provide comprehensive care for children with disabilities or injuries. This approach has gained popularity in recent years due to its numerous benefits, but it also comes with its own set of challenges [17].

One of the key benefits of interdisciplinary collaboration in pediatric rehabilitation is the holistic approach to care that it provides. By bringing together professionals from various fields such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and psychology, children receive a more comprehensive treatment plan that addresses their physical, emotional, and cognitive needs. This integrated approach can lead to better outcomes for children, as it ensures that all aspects of their health and well-being are being considered [18].

Another advantage of interdisciplinary collaboration is the opportunity for professionals to learn from one another and share their expertise. When professionals from different disciplines work together, they can exchange knowledge, skills, and ideas that can enhance the quality of care they provide. This collaborative learning environment can lead to innovative treatment approaches and better outcomes for children in pediatric rehabilitation [19].

Furthermore, interdisciplinary collaboration can also improve communication and coordination among professionals, leading to more efficient and effective care. When professionals from different disciplines work together, they are more likely to communicate regularly, share information, and coordinate their efforts to ensure that the child's needs are being met. This can prevent gaps in care, reduce duplication of services, and improve the overall quality of care provided to children in pediatric rehabilitation [20].

Despite the numerous benefits of interdisciplinary collaboration in pediatric rehabilitation, there are also several challenges that professionals may face

when implementing this approach. One of the main challenges is the potential for conflicts to arise among team members from different disciplines. Each professional may have their own perspectives, priorities, and approaches to care, which can lead to disagreements and tensions within the team. It is important for professionals to communicate openly, listen to one another, and work together to resolve conflicts in a constructive manner [21].

Another challenge of interdisciplinary collaboration is the potential for role confusion among team members. Professionals may struggle to understand their own roles and responsibilities within the team, as well as the roles of their colleagues from different disciplines. This can lead to confusion, inefficiency, and a lack of clarity in the delivery of care. It is important for professionals to establish clear roles and responsibilities, communicate openly, and collaborate effectively to ensure that each team member knows their role in the care of the child [22].

Interdisciplinary collaboration in pediatric rehabilitation offers numerous benefits, including a holistic approach to care, opportunities for learning and collaboration, and improved communication and coordination among professionals. However, there are also challenges that professionals may face, such as conflicts among team members and role confusion. By addressing these challenges and working together effectively, professionals can provide high-quality, comprehensive care for children in pediatric rehabilitation [23].

Strategies for Maximizing Collaboration Among Healthcare Professionals for the Rehabilitation of Children with Disabilities:

Collaboration among healthcare professionals is essential for the successful rehabilitation of children with disabilities. Children with disabilities often require a multidisciplinary approach to address their complex needs and ensure optimal outcomes [24].

Importance of Collaboration in Rehabilitation

Collaboration among healthcare professionals is crucial in the rehabilitation of children with disabilities for several reasons. Firstly, children with disabilities often have multiple healthcare needs that require the expertise of different professionals, such as physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, and special educators. By working together, these professionals can develop a comprehensive treatment plan that addresses all aspects of the child's condition [25].

Secondly, collaboration among healthcare professionals ensures that all members of the team are on the same page and working towards common goals. This helps to prevent duplication of efforts, gaps in care, and conflicting recommendations, which can be detrimental to the child's progress [26].

Finally, collaboration among healthcare professionals promotes a holistic approach to rehabilitation, taking into account the physical, emotional, and social needs of the child. By working together, professionals can provide integrated care that addresses all aspects of the child's well-being [27].

Strategies for Maximizing Collaboration

There are several strategies that can be implemented to maximize collaboration among healthcare professionals for the rehabilitation of children with disabilities. These strategies include:

1. Establishing clear communication channels: Effective communication is essential for collaboration among healthcare professionals. Establishing clear communication channels, such as regular team meetings, shared electronic medical records, and secure messaging platforms, can help to ensure that all members of the team are informed and up-to-date on the child's progress [28].
2. Defining roles and responsibilities: Clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of each member of the healthcare team can help to prevent confusion and ensure that everyone is working towards common goals. This can be done through job descriptions, protocols, and regular team discussions [29].
3. Promoting a team-based approach: Encouraging a team-based approach to rehabilitation can help to foster collaboration among healthcare professionals. This involves recognizing the expertise of each team member and valuing their contributions to the child's care [30].
4. Providing opportunities for professional development: Continuing education and training opportunities can help to enhance the skills and knowledge of healthcare professionals, enabling them to provide better care for children with disabilities. By investing in professional development, healthcare organizations can promote collaboration and improve outcomes for children with disabilities [31].
5. Fostering a culture of collaboration: Creating a supportive and collaborative work environment is essential for maximizing collaboration among healthcare professionals. This involves promoting open communication, mutual

respect, and a shared commitment to the well-being of the child [32].

Collaboration among healthcare professionals is essential for the successful rehabilitation of children with disabilities. By implementing strategies such as establishing clear communication channels, defining roles and responsibilities, promoting a team-based approach, providing opportunities for professional development, and fostering a culture of collaboration, healthcare organizations can maximize collaboration and improve outcomes for children with disabilities. By working together, healthcare professionals can provide integrated care that addresses all aspects of the child's well-being, leading to better outcomes and a higher quality of life for children with disabilities [33].

Conclusion:

In conclusion, collaboration among nursing, pediatrics, emergency school nursing, and physical therapy professionals is essential for the rehabilitation of children with disabilities. By working together in a coordinated and collaborative manner, these healthcare professionals can provide comprehensive care that addresses the unique needs of each child. By sharing information, coordinating care plans, and communicating effectively, nursing, pediatrics, emergency school nursing, and physical therapy professionals can ensure that children with disabilities receive the best possible care and support. Through collaboration, these professionals can help children with disabilities reach their full potential and thrive in all aspects of their lives.

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