

CC4C

Closer Care for Children: Transitioning from institutionalized to home and community-based delivery models for pediatric rehabilitation

ABSTRACT

Cerebral Palsy (3/1000 live births) and Acquired Brain Injury (one million hospital admissions annually) result in neuromotor impairments for thousands of children. These lifelong conditions represent a pervasive challenge for patients, families and healthcare systems. European pediatric neurorehabilitation settings are based on tertiary-care hospitals that offer a wide range of intensive treatments with specialized equipment. According to the WHO, the demand for rehabilitation services is about ten times higher than the current capacity. Moreover, the transition from hospital to home and community can be a particular source of stress for families, potentially jeopardizing the continuity of care and long-term achievement of effective rehabilitation outcomes. Low to mid-cost rehabilitation technologies have seen significant growth and adoption in recent years. They offer engaging rehabilitation experiences, allowing patients to undergo therapy in familiar and convenient settings, such as their own homes and schools. The aim of CC4C is to facilitate effective therapy for children with neuromotor impairments and reduce the overall socioeconomic burden by transitioning from tertiary-care to home and community-based technology-supported rehabilitation, ensuring greater continuity of care.

The specific objectives of the project are:

- To assess the needs, facilitators and barriers of implementing home and community rehabilitation services for children in EU countries;
- To co-design, implement and evaluate pilot test services of home and community rehabilitation in partnership with local agencies and families of children with neuromotor impairments;
- To refine rehabilitation technologies on the basis of user needs and market availability;
- To provide sustainability strategies and to strengthen community-based healthcare professionals' skills through capacity-building activities.

The consortium's multidisciplinary will drive impactful improvements in patient care across Europe.

KEYWORDS

- Home and community rehabilitation
- Children
- Cerebral palsy
- Acquired brain injury
- Mid-cost rehabilitation technologies

DURATION

36 months

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