

### **The clinical utility and concurrent validity of two measures of family-centred practice**

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**Introduction.** Family-centred practice (FCP) is a guiding philosophy of service provision in early intervention (EI) settings, with accurate evaluation of the approach dependent on the use of high quality instruments. Occupational therapists often use a FCP approach in EI settings when working with children and their families. The aim of this study was to examine the clinical utility and concurrent validity of two instruments used to measure parents' perceptions of FCP in EI environments.

**Method.** Participants completed the Measure of Processes of Care (MPOC-20) and the European Parent Satisfaction Scale About Early Intervention (EPASSEI). Spearman rho correlations were calculated to investigate the association between the MPOC-20 and EPASSEI scores. Ethics committee approval was obtained from Monash University and the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

**Results.** Participants included 63 parents (response rate of 28%) of children attending Yooralla Early Childhood Intervention Services, Melbourne, Australia. With the exception of one comparison, all MPOC-20 and EPASSEI subscales were significantly associated with one another, with correlations ranging from 0.27 to 0.74. The MPOC-20 and EPASSEI subscale comparisons demonstrated acceptable clinical utility and concurrent validity.

**Conclusion.** The results of this study imply that the majority of the MPOC-20 and EPASSEI subscales are equivalent in measuring the construct of FCP. Given paediatric occupational therapists' work in EI settings, the results of this study provide a valuable contribution to the evidence base of occupational therapy practice by ensuring the implementation and use of FCP is accurately evaluated.