

0936

## **EuREKA! Enhancing Leisure Participation in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder through Coaching in Context**

Marie-Christine Potvin<sup>1</sup>, Patricia Prelock<sup>2</sup>, Liliane Savard<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Philadelphia University, Philadelphia, PA, USA,* <sup>2</sup>*University of Vermont, Burlington, VT, USA*

**Rationale:** Children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) experience occupational deprivation in the leisure domain (Hilton, Crouch & Israel, 2008; Potvin, Snider, Prelock, Kehaya & Wood-Dauphinee, 2014; Solish, Perry & Minnes, 2010). Leisure participation has many known benefits, most notably improved health and wellbeing (Caldwell, 2005). Family-driven culturally responsive intervention to enhance leisure participation have yet to be developed and studied.

**Objectives:** Examine the degree to which Coaching in Context (CinC) increases the leisure participation of children with ASD.

**Procedures:** A single-subject design across behaviors was used. Behaviors were defined as leisure goals identified and scaled through the Canadian Occupational Performance Measure (COPM) and Goal Attainment Scaling (GAS). Goal targeted was randomized and staggered in time. Progress on GAS was monitored weekly from baseline to follow-up. Each weekly CinC intervention session had three components: Connecting, Brainstorming and Making a plan (Potvin, Prelock & Savard, n.d.).

**Results:** To date, three families participated in the study. Clinically significant (> 2 points) improvements in child's occupational performance and parent's satisfaction with their child's performance on the COPM was found. For two of the three families, visual analysis of GAS scores indicated clinically significant improvement (> 1 point) during the intervention phase, compared to baseline, which was maintained during follow-up. For one family, GAS scores variation within each phase limited the ability to attribute change to the intervention.

**Conclusion:** Preliminary data suggests that the intervention is beneficial in supporting families to meet the leisure goals they have for their children.