Effective Health Care

Gross Motor Function Classification System and Outcomes in Cerebral Palsy
Nomination Summary Document

Results of Topic Selection Process & Next Steps

- Gross Motor Function Classification System and outcomes in cerebral palsy is not feasible for a full systematic review due to the limited data available for a review at this time.

Topic Description

Nominator: Health care professional association

Nomination Summary: The nominator expresses an interest in comparing the effectiveness of interventions in cerebral palsy by Gross Motor Function Classification System (GMFCS) levels.
The nominator expresses a broad interest in all literature which provides outcomes for cerebral palsy therapies according to GMFCS level, including qualitative or quantitative differences in outcomes by GMFCS level. The nominator is also interested in gaps in the literature where cerebral palsy interventions have not been assessed by GMFCS.

Staff-Generated PICO
Population(s): Patients with cerebral palsy
Intervention(s): Any intervention in patients with cerebral palsy
Comparator(s): No intervention or other interventions
Outcome(s): Outcomes of any cerebral palsy intervention by GMFCS level

Key Questions from Nominator:
1. For children and adults with cerebral palsy, what is the comparative effectiveness of outcomes for each GMFCS level?

Considerations

- The topic meets EHC Program appropriateness and importance criteria. (For more information, see http://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/submit-a-suggestion-for-research/how-are-research-topics-chosen/.)

- The GMFCS is used to categorize children (up to 18 years of age) into five levels according to their abilities and limitations in walking and other mobility tasks. The GMFCS is a relatively new scale, and the body of literature employing it to assess outcomes is limited; therefore, a full systematic review on this topic is not feasible at this time.

.