

The Challenge

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Technology description

Description

The 'Challenge' is a 25-item observational measure that was designed for use with children with cerebral palsy who are age 6 years and up, and are in GMFCS Level I (i.e., able to run and jump independently but limited in speed and quality of movement). It is possible as well to use with children in GMFCS II (walk without aids but have difficulty with running and jumping and long distance walking) but the skills will likely be very difficult for these children. TheChallenge was developed at Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital with assistance of graduate students from the Department of Physical Therapy, University of Toronto and with funding from Bloorview Research Institute and the Pediatric Division of the Canadian Physiotherapy Association. It is intended to be an upward extension on the GMFM-66, and research is underway at present by our team to make the link via a Rasch scaling measurement approach.

TheChallenge was designed to be an engaging and fun test that comprises skills that:

- 1) are considered important for children and youth to be able to perform in school and recreation
- 2) focus on impairments of speed, balance, agility and coordination that are typical in children with cerebral palsy in GMFCS Level I
- 3) integrate upper/lower limb movements and dual task performance.

It is meant to be administered by a pediatric physical therapist who has experience with the GMFM-66, and requires about 60 minutes to complete. Certification training is required prior to use of theChallenge.

The novelty of theChallenge is that the entire focus of this observational measure is on evaluation of advanced motor skills that have been identified by pediatric physiotherapist experts as being priority for measurement in children with cerebral palsy in GMFCS Level I.

Institution

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