Bayley-4: The Potential for Rural Outreach

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Research Mentor and other collaborators:

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Objective:

The purpose of this research project is to support the Center for Disabilities and Development (CDD) in training staff at Spencer and Ottumwa Child Health Specialty Clinics (CHSC) regional centers to administer the Bayley-4 Scales of Infant and Toddler Development (Bayley-4) to expand this service to rural populations in Iowa. This effort is intended to identify young children with intellectual difficulties earlier in life, allowing for their families to access timely resources and support. This research effort specifically focuses on the potential of telehealth in the administration, scoring and reporting of the assessment as well as who can be trained to administer the assessment.

Method:

A literature review was completed with key search words related to the subject. The databases used included Pearson Assessments, PubMed, and Google Scholar. Articles/websites were chosen based on the reliability of information taking into consideration the author's credentials, sources, date published, and possible biases.

Primary Search Terms:

- Bayley Scales of Infant and Toddler Development AND
- Telehealth OR Telemedicine AND
- Effectiveness AND Potential

Results:

The Bayley-4 includes a telehealth option for administering, scoring, and reporting the assessment, however, there are several considerations that the administrator must think through to determine whether telehealth is appropriate for an examinee. Not all situations are feasible to have the assessment completed via telehealth. Only those registered on Pearson's website as 'Qualified Users' at Qualification Level B may take the exam to administer, score, and interpret the Bayley-4.

Conclusion:

It was ultimately discovered that telehealth is a viable delivery format and those who train to administer the Bayley-4 must meet certain criterion take the exam. The implications of these findings are intended to aid in the outreach effort focusing on creating increased accessibility to the Bayley-4 for rural populations.