

**NSW SPEECH PATHOLOGY EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE (EBP) NETWORK  
PAEDIATRIC LANGUAGE EBP GROUP  
TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)  
March 2018**

**Introduction**

The Paediatric Language EBP Group includes Speech Pathologists who work with paediatric clients who have language difficulties. The main aim of the EBP group is to encourage evidence based practice within paediatric language.

The specific aims of the group include:

- Affiliated with NSW Evidence Based Practice network
- To evaluate the scientific rigour of literature relating to clinical questions in paediatric language assessment & management
- To identify the best available external evidence and common procedures in paediatric language assessment and management
- To facilitate the merge between best available evidence and application in clinical practice
- To share information amongst the Speech Pathology community regarding developments and issues in paediatric language assessment and management for children
- To provide a forum to liaise with peers in Speech Pathology for support, guidance, sharing resources, information and reciprocal education e.g. Clinical Practice Guidelines, quality improvement projects, education projects, feedback from professional development opportunities, discussion of case studies

**Meetings**

- The EBP Paediatric Language Group will meet 4-5 times per calendar year with each meeting running for 2 hours. Face to face or teleconference attendance is welcome. A minimum of 24 hours notice is required to the EBP Leader to access teleconferencing facilities. Rural members will receive priority for teleconferencing
- The meetings will operate to an agenda. All agenda items should be forwarded to the EBP leader prior to meetings
- Meeting minute takers will be on rotational basis amongst all members and will be allocated by leaders prior to the meetings
- The meetings will focus on discussion of current Critical Appraised Topic (CAT) and papers (CAP), relating the current topic to clinical practice, discussion of new CATs, E3BP and allocation of roles for members

**Membership**

- Members must be fully qualified Speech Pathologists working in NSW who have attended the Introductory EBP Network Training Workshop held by the NSW Speech Pathology EBP Steering Committee
- Members must actively participate in activities coordinated by the group leader and attend the meetings prepared and ready to engage in the EBP discussion process
- Members must:
  - Attend at least two meetings per year (face to face or teleconference attendance is welcome)
  - Contribute to at least 3 CAPs per year. Members will be given six to eight weeks to complete CAPs
  - Contribute to final CAT and presentation for NSW EBP Network Showcase

- Each paper will be appraised by at least two group members. Where possible an experienced group member will be paired with a less experienced member to complete the same CAP.
- Members are welcome to discuss case studies, clinical questions, professional development opportunities or resources relating to paediatric language during meetings.

### **Role of Academic Link/s**

- Be available via email/telephone to support questions that may arise through our CAP/CAT process.
- Attend and contribute to at least 2 meetings annually. Face to face or teleconference attendance is welcome.
- Primary role will be to guide EBP group in selecting a suitable clinically relevant foreground question and PICO that has sufficient research evidence. Assistance with refining search terms to guide journal database searches.
- Support with accessing journal articles and databases where required.
- Guidance with developing CAP and CATs and review selected CAPs and final CAT to ensure we are following the correct process.
- Support with developing presentation for NSW EBP Network Showcase.

### **Role of EBP Leader/s**

The role of the EBP leader/s is to:

- Collate items for agenda prior to each meeting.
- Chair each meeting.
- Manage dropbox administrative tasks
- Delegate group member to take minutes at meeting on a rotational basis.
- Allocate CAPs to members.
- Coordinate collation of completed CAPs.
- Allocate member/s to complete literature searches.
- Ensure each group member has completed the relevant training.
- Co-ordinate CATs and Showcase presentation.
- Liaise with the Steering Committee.

**Terms of Reference (ToR) developed by the Paediatric Language EBP group in 2018 and reviewed in 2019. ToR are reviewed on an annual basis.**