

Navigating Adolescence with Developmental Difficulties

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Background:

Navigating Adolescence with Developmental Difficulties is an education resource created by Child Development Service (CDS) clinicians. The project was developed in response to identified needs for clinical education specific to working with adolescents in child development settings.

Approach:

A learning needs assessment was undertaken and included survey responses from 62 clinicians working in child development across QLD. This survey indicated that most clinicians see adolescents in their work but that they don't feel confident in their ability to conduct developmental assessments, respond to mental illness, or support effective transition out of paediatrics with this cohort.

Outcome:

Through collaboration with the project team and child development clinicians an online learning module has been developed. The module is self-paced, suitable for all health professions, and designed to promote reflective practice and further self-directed learning.

Innovation and Significance:

Navigating Adolescence with Developmental Difficulties incorporates resources and links to a range of adolescent health specific sources interwoven with original content tailored to the needs identified by QLD CDS clinicians. Early feedback highlights that clinicians appreciate the self-paced approach and ability to 'zoom' in and out of topics in more or less detail. The module invites feedback on completion and is able to be updated in response to emerging needs of users.

Disclosure of Interest Statement:

"Children's Health Queensland acknowledges the work of colleagues and the AAAH. The 2024 conference collaborators recognise the considerable contribution that industry partners make to professional and research activities. We also recognise the need for transparency of disclosure of potential conflicts of interest by acknowledging these relationships in publications and presentations."