

DEVELOPMENT OF A MOBILE APPLICATION AS AN ASSISTIVE DEVICE FOR PEDIATRIC OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY- THE HOME INSTRUCTION PROGRAM

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ABSTRACT

Background: Home Instruction Programs are individually made programs specifically for one patient in mind. They are to extend the benefits of occupational therapy services throughout the week. Children with special needs are different from one another, they may have the same diagnosis, same problem areas but their needs, capabilities and environment are completely different form

Aim: To develop an assistive device that will help parent and child participate with their Home Instruction Program that will enable them to achieve their targeted goals

Method: Study population (n=75), 40 parents of children with special needs and 35 pediatric occupational therapists used the developed Theraplay mobile application for 1 month. After which questionnaires were answered by the respondents to determine the level of acceptance and five IT experts evaluated the level of effectiveness of the app using the ISO 9126.

Results: Results have shown that under Perceived satisfaction the parent population have shown 87.50% satisfaction rate on the contents of the Theraplay mobile app. Perceived satisfaction the OT population have shown 75% satisfaction rate

Conclusion: That the parent and pediatric occupational therapist population of the study has deemed the Theraplay mobile app acceptable to be used as assistive device to participate with HIP. That the IT experts has evaluated the Theraplay mobile app as an effective mobile app.

Keywords: Home Instruction Program (HIP), Pediatric occupational therapy, adherence, mHealth apps, assistive device.