

Cultural adaptation of parent-implemented early communication interventions: A scoping review

Albin, M., Micsinszki, S., & Phoenix, M.

CanChild, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario; School of Rehabilitation Science, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario

Background & Rationale

- When parent-implemented early communication interventions are delivered to culturally and linguistically diverse families, there is little guidance regarding what elements to culturally adapt. Cultural adaptation is essential to ensure that interventions are ecologically valid and delivered in a culturally sensitive manner¹.
- Cultural adaptation frameworks can help clinicians analyze what intervention elements were adapted, and how the adaptation process was carried out. Although these frameworks have been applied in fields such as psychology and behaviour analysis, and recently for some areas of SLP², they have not yet been applied to parent-implemented SLP interventions.
- This scoping review addresses this gap by identifying parent-implemented early communication interventions which have been culturally adapted and describing which intervention components were adapted.

Focal Research Question



What aspects of parent-implemented communication interventions for children under age five are adapted when delivered to culturally and linguistically diverse families?

Method



Search Strategy:

Database search conducted in CINAHL, Medline, Embase, and PsycINFO in September 2020.

Supplementary search: hand searching of references, grey literature search.

Categories of Search Terms:

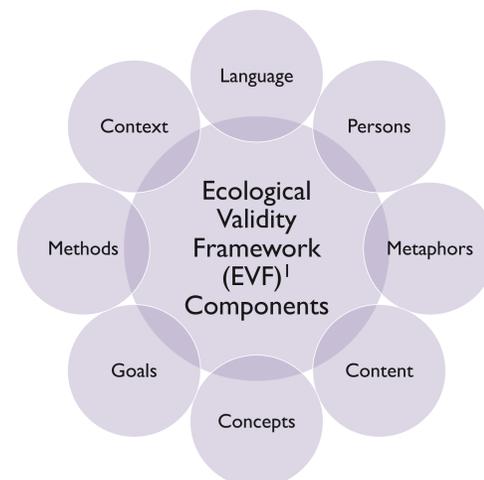
- Agent of intervention (e.g., parent)
- Young children (e.g., toddler, preschool)
- Communication intervention (e.g., language, speech)
- Culture-related terms (e.g., list of specific cultural groups)

Inclusion Criteria

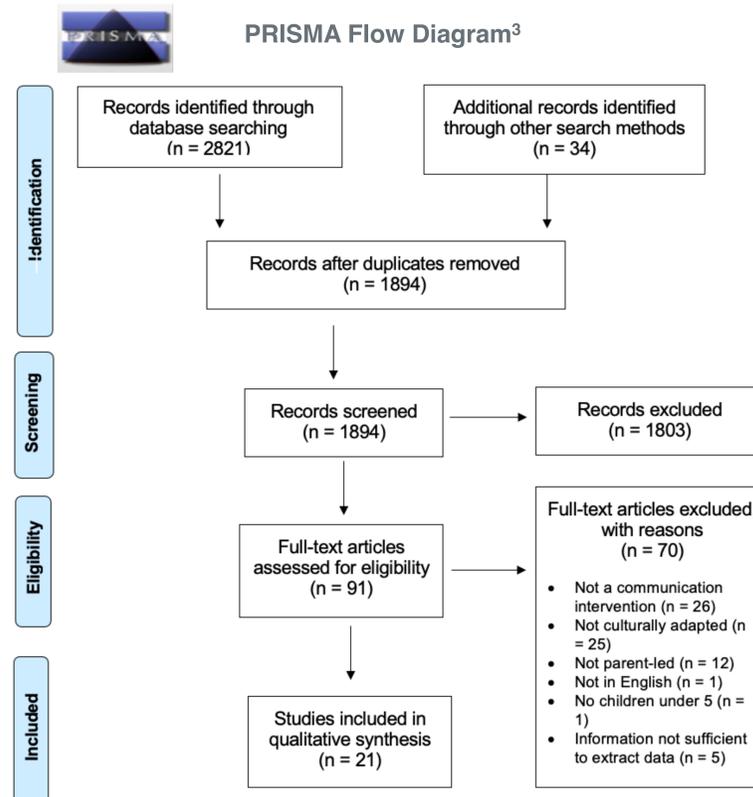
- Parents are the primary agent of the intervention
- At least some children are under age five
- Intervention is focused on communication
- Implemented with cultural group different than originally designed for
- Peer-reviewed, published in English after 1995

Charting, Extraction, & Synthesis of Data

- Developed a data charting form, extracted by two authors (MA, SM), with over 95% agreement
- Population, intervention, study, and cultural adaptation data extracted using the Ecological Validity Framework (EVF)¹
- Data synthesized with descriptive summaries



Results



Population & Concept Data

- Caregivers were mostly mothers, some fathers, grandparents, and others (e.g., neighbours)
- 6 were interventions delivered **locally** to immigrant populations (e.g., Latinx in USA), the rest were interventions from English-speaking countries delivered in **foreign** countries
- 16** unique communication interventions

Language	81% of papers adapted
Persons	71% of papers adapted
Metaphors	57% of papers adapted
Content	71% of papers adapted
Concepts	38% of papers adapted
Goals	14% of papers adapted
Methods	81% of papers adapted
Context	57% of papers adapted

Key Takeaways



No studies defined culture, and only 3 used cultural adaptation models or frameworks. Studies varied greatly in their adaptation processes; *goals* were adapted by the fewest number of studies, while *language & methods* were adapted by most studies.

Conclusions

- Cultural adaptation frameworks, like the EVF¹, are useful tools to guide adaptation, but can be difficult to operationalize.
- Additional research and guidelines are needed to support cultural adaptation processes and reporting for parent-implemented communication interventions.
- Using cultural adaptation frameworks to specify how and what to adapt may support clinician efforts to deliver family-centred interventions (i.e., align with goals, beliefs, and values), especially if family collaboration and feedback are integrated.

References & Contact Information

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Maya Albin, MSc, Reg. CASLPO
mayaalbin@yahoo.ca

Michelle Phoenix, PhD, Reg. CASLPO
phoenimp@mcmaster.ca @DrMPhoenix