

TRANSDISCIPLINARY PRACTICE

An integrated approach to allied health

xavier[™]
Enabling Families



1800 XAVIER
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Transdisciplinary Practice

What is Transdisciplinary Practice?

- Transdisciplinary practice involves allied health professionals from different disciplines working together to provide an integrated and planned support for individuals
- Allied health professionals collaborate to integrate their knowledge and skills, and provide input to maximize an individual's treatment outcomes
- Transdisciplinary practice may involve two or more different disciplines depending on the client's goals and needs
- At Xavier, this may involve Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Speech Pathologists and/or Music Therapists
- Families are an important and integral member of the transdisciplinary team and bring valuable knowledge and expertise about their child
- Allied health professionals on the team will work with the family and, where appropriate, with input from other stakeholders (e.g. childcare, school, medical professionals), to set appropriate goals and plan how therapy supports will be delivered
- Where appropriate, the allied health professionals may allocate one therapist to work in a "transdisciplinary" way. This means that the therapist will also work on another therapist's intervention program with your child (e.g. while working with a child to develop speech, the Speech Pathologist may play games that also work on the Occupational Therapist's goal of developing fine motor skills)
- It is important that the allied health team meets with the family at agreed times to discuss progress and make any changes to the Support Plan if required
- The therapist who is providing transdisciplinary support will at times need to refer the child back to other disciplines to update their programs and goals for the child

When can Transdisciplinary Practice be Accessed?

- Where parents/carers have been provided with information and advice, and choose to access a transdisciplinary approach
- Funding is available to support a multidisciplinary team, including regular team consultative meetings, and the funding is not specified for a specific discipline or specific discipline supported goal
- Allied health professionals with the appropriate skills and knowledge to support a transdisciplinary approach are available

When is Transdisciplinary Practice not Appropriate?

- Where the person with a disability has needs that require specific skills and knowledge that cannot be generalised to other therapists (e.g. equipment prescription, very complex and specific needs) or
- Where the therapy support needs are out of scope for a specific discipline or
- Where an allied health professional does not have the knowledge or experience required, or cannot access advice, support and/or training of other disciplines

How can you Access Transdisciplinary Practice from Xavier?

If you are interested in finding out more about Xavier providing a transdisciplinary approach, please speak to one of your therapists or call us to discuss your options and the suitability of this approach for you.

For further information, please contact us on 1800 XAVIER (1800 928 437)

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