

How do you respond to diversity? Supporting culturally and linguistically diverse parents in early intervention

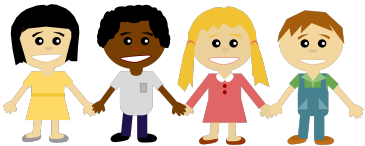
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Grant of Dr Daniël De Coninck Fund managed by King Baudouin Foundation

PURPOSE

Speech-language therapists (SLTs) can optimize intervention for deaf or hard-of-hearing (DHH) children through supporting these children's parents. However, increasing cultural and linguistic **diversity among families** brings new challenges for early intervention (EI) professionals.



➔ We explore **how SLTs respond** to this diversity in early intervention with parents of DHH children.

OBJECTIVES

- ✓ Specific **roles of SLTs** supporting culturally and linguistically diverse (CLD) families in EI
- ✓ **Perspectives of CLD parents** of DHH children in EI
- ✓ New **clinical resources** to bridge research-practice gap

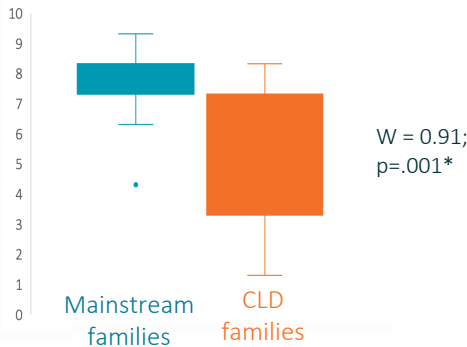
METHOD

- ✓ Online **survey** for SLTs working in EI in Belgium ($n = 13$)
- ✓ **Interviews** with CLD parents of DHH children ($n = 5$)
- ✓ Mixed methods approach

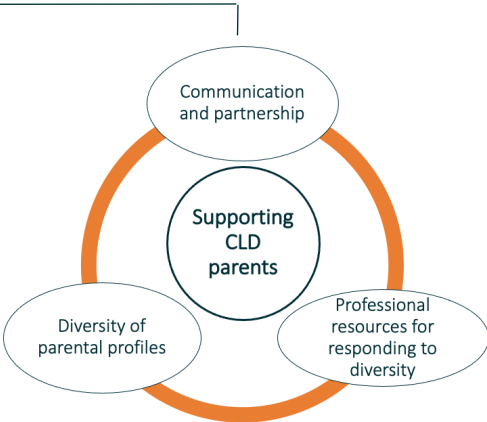
RESULTS

SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPISTS

SLTs self-satisfaction in supporting families (/10)



SLTs feeling about skills to support CLD families ($n = 13$)



Thematic map of qualitative analysis

CLD PARENTS

- **High satisfaction** with the support they received from SLTs in EI
- **Variability** in adaptation of SLT services to their language and culture
- Need for adaptations to **overcome language barrier** and fully involve in rehabilitation

CONCLUSION

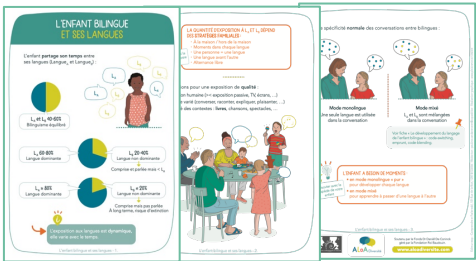
➔ **Specific roles of SLTs:**

- ✓ Partnership despite cultural / linguistic differences
- ✓ Discussion topics related to multilingualism
- ✓ Highly adaptable family-centered services

Listening to the perspectives of SLTs and CLD families ➔ **develop new solutions**

PRACTICAL BENEFITS

New clinical resources (multilingual documentation)



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