

Reviewing Accessibility Struggles within the Education System for Students with Neurodevelopmental Disorders Post COVID-19

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INTRODUCTION

Research shows that parents advocating for their children to receive accommodations in school can be an arduous experience^{3,4,6,8,9,16,17}

Many schools are unaware how to successfully accommodate each family on a personalized level

The effects of COVID-19 led to a huge shift in education

OBJECTIVE

Review effects the COVID-19 pandemic had on students with special education need in the classroom

Evaluate ways the school-system can improve ways they accommodate students

METHODS

Google Scholar, NIH, and other databases were utilized to gather a collection of parental and student narratives focusing on the keywords: COVID-19, special education, disability, remote learning

Organized qualitative data based on recurring themes of the common experiences parents/students faced

Organized qualitative data on how system changes can occur to better assist families in need

RESULTS

Sources	Factors				
	Losing Accommodations	Lack of Routine	Increased Parental Involvement	Technology Issues	Decreased Social Interactions
Averett 2021	x	x		x	x
Becker et al.2020	x		x	x	
Eshrghi et al. 2020	x	x			
Kim & Fienup 2022		x		x	
Latzer et al. 2021	x	x			
Masonbrink & Hurley 2020	x		x		
Schuck & Lambert 2020			x		x
Sonnenschein et al. 2022	x		x		x
Toseeb et al. 2020	x	x	x		x
Toste et al. 2021	x	x			

DISCUSSION

- Families of students with various neurodevelopmental disorders face a wide array of challenges in education since the pandemic
- Providing more individualized support is a way to best accommodate families of many needs

CONCLUSIONS

In order to properly review how the school-system needs to better accommodate families, common system deficits must be researched. These common system deficits can lead to important policy including public investments in high quality internet connection in homes or mandating accommodations being maintained despite classroom disruption.

STRENGTHS & LIMITATIONS

- Limited diversity in participant race, environment, and socioeconomic status
- Research was based in the United States, but more progress has been made globally.

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References



Kennedy Krieger Institute