

# Health service use among adults with cerebral palsy: A mixed method systematic review



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## Introduction

Most children with Cerebral palsy (CP) survive well into adulthood. However there is no review conducted on health service use among adults with CP.

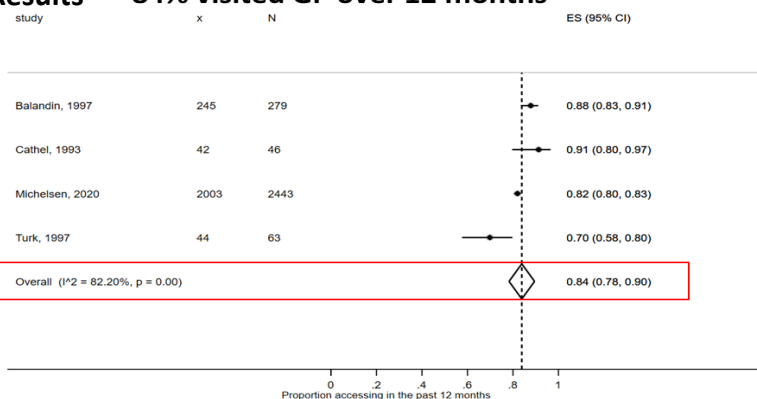
## Aim

- To describe the proportion and frequency of health service use.
- To examine factors associated with health service use.
- To explore the experiences of health service use from the perspective of adults with CP, caregivers and service providers

## Methods

- This mixed methods systematic review was conducted in accordance with the Joanna Briggs institute (JBI) methodology guidelines.

## Results 84% visited GP over 12 months



### Access as the ability to attend services

*"[e]ven when I come into a physician's room and that I have to climb on the table, and the table is too high, I am not able to climb on a table, you know, this is complex, there is nothing adapted, they have small steps but if you're not able to lift your leg on the step, you're not better off!"*

### Health systems challenges faced by adults with CP

*"Unfortunately community-based services are not well set up to effectively treat people with a neurological condition"*

### Needs associated with ageing

*"And the doctors don't have a clue so I guess as far as aging with CP, it would help if somebody could say this is aging with CP and this is what's not . . ."*

### Knowledge and experience impacts care relationships and service provision for adults with CP

*The thing is too I think they see people in a wheelchair and they immediately think that they don't have a brain".*

## Discussion and conclusions

- The review shows that the largest proportion were for the GP services.
- Adults with CP faced challenging experiences accessing the fragmented adult services.
- The findings emphasize the need to develop an appropriate service delivery model and educate service providers in order to meet the needs of adults with CP.

## Acknowledgements

- Authors would like to thank our PPI panel members for their support and contribution. This work was conducted as part of the SPHeRE Programme under Grant No. SPHeRE/2018/1. This study is funded by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) through the StAR programme.