

# Patterns of participation in recreational and leisure activities in children and young people with brachial plexus birth palsy. A cross-sectional study

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25 children with brachial plexus birth palsy attending a UK specialist centre  
Sept 24-March 25



- Ages 6-15 yr (mean 11.4, SD 2.9)
- Index of Multiple Deprivation: **36% in most deprived quintile**
- Narakas classification: **68% Type I**
- **64%** surgical management
- **48%** overweight or obese, national average 26%

Participation levels assessed using the **Children's Assessment of Participation and Enjoyment (CAPE) questionnaire** and compared with age and sex matched typically developing children



Children with brachial plexus birth palsy engage in recreational and leisure activities that are significantly less diverse and less intense than those of typically developing children.



**Diversity:** (BPBP mean = 25.8, TDC mean = 30.3,  $t(24) = -2.14$ ,  $p=0.043$ )  
**Intensity:** (BPBP median = 2.1, TDC median = 4.8,  $W=0.00$ ,  $Z=-4.37$ ,  $p=<0.001$ )

Most differences are found in physical activities.



**Diversity:** (BPBP mean = 3.76, TDP mean = 5.84,  $t(24) = -2.82$ ,  $p=0.0094$ )  
**Intensity:** (BPBP mean = 1.24, TDP mean = 2.11,  $t(24) = -3.71$ ,  $p=0.001$ )

Brachial plexus birth palsy was a significant predictor of overall participation scores with age, sex, IMD quintile and BMI not predicting participation.  
More research is required to understand why.



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