



ABOUT PRISM

PRISM (Promoting Relational and Inclusive Support for Neurodivergent Minds) aims to develop, implement and sustain relational and trauma-informed care interventions that improve healthcare experiences and outcomes for children and families with ESSENCE-aligned profiles.

WHY IT MATTERS

The study responds to sensory, communication, relational and regulatory needs that can place neurodivergent children at risk of distress, re-traumatisation and inequitable healthcare. It promotes care centred on safety, dignity, participation, inclusion and partnership with children and families.

PROJECT APPROACH

Grounded in the EPIS framework (Exploration, Preparation, Implementation and Sustainment), this multi-phase project uses qualitative, quantitative, participatory, co-design, implementation science and realist approaches across public and private paediatric healthcare settings.

EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION

The wider PRISM programme seeks to generate neurodiversity affirming clinical guidance, practical implementation strategies and a sustainable model to strengthen healthcare team competence, reduce distress and medical trauma, and improve child and family experiences.

POSSIBLE STUDENT RESEARCH AREAS

Evidence synthesis on relational and trauma-informed care and family challenges

Healthcare professionals' practices, experiences and perspectives

Co-design and evaluation of contextually relevant clinical guidelines

Implementation and realist process evaluation in paediatric hospital settings

Design and evaluation of practical intervention toolkits

Sustainability, institutional integration and interprofessional capacity building

Development and evaluation of a sustainable practice model

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE STUDY?

For more information, contact Dr Suegnet Scholtz, Principal Investigator of the PRISM project

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