

**Early Intervention SIG Update and
Minutes of Teleconference Business Meeting January 2015
Handout CSM 2015**

Lisa Chiarello welcomed all participants to the call. For members attending the CSM EI SIG meeting, please contact the EI SIG leadership team with any additional feedback on the EI SIG. Topics for discussion are noted in italics below. Membership input at the January meeting is noted in bold text below.

It was discovered that the email with the agenda went to the groups' spam accounts limiting review of this agenda prior to the meeting. The agenda and update was resent to the group.

1. ***Membership***: Increase in membership 349 (2013) to 432 (2014) members. Also seeing increase in membership participation in topical teleconferences and SIG projects. ***Need to consider how best to foster leadership on SIG projects and activities so our SIG can be more productive.***

Comments from participants:

Mass requests for members to get involved are often sent out but it is best to directly ask someone who is interested such as at a conference

Two individuals stated they have contacted several people to volunteer but did not hear back. Lisa Chiarello followed up with the Section on Pediatrics and discovered there were some glitches with the online form which are now being corrected. The Section is meeting at CSM to refine the process. Lisa also contacted each person who requested interest and provided opportunities for participation in the EI SIG. Lisa noted that the SIG chair, vice-chair, and secretary provide support to individuals who lead SIG projects or activities. The SIG will consider additional resources and supports (such as guideline for professional writing) that may help more individuals assume leadership roles for SIG activities.

2. ***Leadership***: After CSM 2015: Chair: Tricia Catalino (Tricia.Catalino@tun.touro.edu), Vice Chair: Priscilla Weaver (pweaver@fsmail.bradley.edu), and Secretary: Lisa Schwarcz (lschwarcz@gmail.com)

3. ***Practice / Member Inquiries***

- Issues that we have been involved with in the past year: reimbursement/billing, recommendations for CE related to EI and young children, recruitment and retention, use of personal electronic devices in EI, PT evaluations in preschool, EI to school transition, assessment tools, benefits of membership, initial assessment practice guidelines, advocating to community about EI, primary service provider approach, NY state regulations, access to state level EI SIGs, need for PT to be part of or do an evaluation before providing intervention, inversion therapy, productivity standards

- ***Requested topics for discussion by members:***
 - CMT CPG survey outcomes (Katie Stribling): Still gathering member input and outcomes not available at this time.
 - Reimbursement (Karon Pryor). Karon not on the call so time was not devoted to this topic.
- ***Others: needs, suggestions, insights, thoughts, directions, new in EI, etc?***

One participant was interested in learning more about how people address frequency and changes of frequency on an IFSP. How do others handle bursts of intervention?

- **One respondent stated they put a number of sessions on the IFSP versus so many times per week or month**
- **Another respondent put the number of visits in a 6 month time period. She will ‘front-load’ the frequency and then decrease the frequency after the 1st 6 months**

4. *Any updates from liaisons?* (please note that the liaison with Easter Seals has been discontinued)

a. Practice Committee: Lynn Jeffries **The focus this past year for the practice committee has been coordinating PTNow and Move Forward. The committee is also trying to identify experts to support clinical practice guidelines. They continue to coordinate and review factsheets from special interest groups to post as resources.**

b. Knowledge Translation Committee: Terrie Milliard **The KT subcommittee met on Dec 3. The subcommittee is now a committee and the time has been spent on developing the organization, goals, and plans for the committee. We will be meeting at CSM to develop a survey to measure KT which occurs after SoPAC, CSM, NEXT and other important courses offered through the Section. The EI SIG supports this direction as we are particularly interested in learning how our continuing education sessions and products are utilized and impact practice.**

c. School SIG: Susan Effgen: **School SI produced a document on performance appraisals. Lisa Chiarello commented that the EI SIG is monitoring the need for resources relating to performance appraisals but there have been no reports of a push in this direction in EI. The group had no comment on the topic when asked if anyone is seeing this push.**

d. Federal Affairs: Maria Jones: **The committee with the assistance of members of the EI SIG provided comments on the proposed methodology for using child outcomes data to identify states in need of supports. Maria is willing to provide a PDF document with comments submitted by APTA. No action at this time on IDEA reauthorization.**

e. Payment, Policy, and Advocacy: Durga Shah. **Not present during meeting, but continues to serve as a resource to the SIG.**

f. Learn the Signs, Act Early Campaign, National Center on Birth Defects & Developmental Disabilities, Center for Disease Control and Prevention: Elisa Kennedy. **In email communication recommended that the liaison be discontinued as the task force has not met in almost 2 years. CDC has shown no action to get it running again.**

g. DEC: Tricia Catalino: Contributed to DEC recommended practices and paper on role of special instruction in EI, presented with DEC on recommended practices at APTA NEXT, presented at DEC conference as part of a panel on interdisciplinary professional development in EI (and Toby Long participated on a similar panel at ASHA conference), elected as DEC Board Member, and working on a monograph on environmental practices. The EI SIG in collaboration with the SoP provided feedback on the paper on the role of special instruction in EI. EI SIG provided feedback on the DEC paper on leadership in EI. **The DEC Recommended Practices for early childhood were published April of 2014 and is posted on their website at <http://www.dec-sped.org/>. The DEC has also created a position statement on the Role of Special Instruction in EI paper and is posted on their website at <http://dec.membershipsoftware.org/files/Position%20Statement%20and%20Papers/EI%20Position%20Statement%206%202014.pdf>. The EI SIG provided feedback on the position statement. Tricia Catalino was recently elected as DEC Board Member.**

h. OSEP: Lisa Chiarello: In collaboration with Maria Jones and APTA, provided feedback on plans for use of child outcomes data to identify states in need of supports. Attended the 2nd annual Early Childhood Personnel Center (ECPC), Interdisciplinary Personnel Standards Think Tank meeting - presented information on unique contributions of PT in EI and collaborated with group on identifying shared competencies across disciplines. In collaboration with Tricia Catalino, Toby Long, and Priscila Weaver we had an invited article accepted for publication in *Infants and Young Children* on promoting professional development for PT in EI.

5. Vision / Direction for SIG.

- ***What should our vision be for the EI SIG? What is our role? What impact should we strive for? Do we clearly articulate what the EI SIG is, that is, related to practice under IDEA Part C?***
 - **Participants did not have any additional input at this time. Discussion focused on the topic of and our role with social media – see comments below under the Communication and Networking subcommittee.**

We are sharing a brief update on our activities. We did not cover these in depth during the meeting but noted in bold italics a few points to highlight. Please feel free to send an email to Lisa at lisa.chiarello@drexel.edu if you have insights, ideas, something to share about any of the items or if you are interested in participating on an activity.

6. **CSM 2015 business meeting:** This year the meeting will include a panel of NICU and EI therapists to discuss sharing information to foster transition from the NICU to EI services. Currently the two SIGs have a collaborative workgroup developing a communication form. The meeting will be on Thursday, February 5th from 10-11 in MM105. The date, time, and location listed in the print program are inaccurate.

7. **Communication and networking subcommittee:** oversight for the newsletter and website, and to monitor and explore options for social networking (Priscilla (chair), Tricia, Lisa C). After CSM, Lisa Swartz will become chair of this subcommittee.

- **Looking for additional members. If interested, please contact Priscilla Weaver at pweaver@fsmail.bradley.edu**
- Fall 2014 Newsletter disseminated and posted on website. Included a new column, an article from a parent.
- Conducted a teleconference this year on the reimbursement and billing. Members shared ideas and resources.
- Provided input to partnership with WebMD related to “how can I promote my child’s physical development”
- Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/APTA-Section-on-Pediatrics-Early-Intervention-Special-Interest-Group/348736235147122>) Leadership uses the page to share and post link to resources (approximately 3 times a month). Some postings by members but may be beneficial to remind members that they are also able to post on the page. EI SIG welcomes nonmembers and other disciplines to “like” and participate on Facebook. 559 “likes”. **If able to add additional members to this subcommittee we can have more individuals have administration privileges to our Facebook page.**
- ListServe: Our current philosophy is to let members provide range of feedback. One member of EI SIG will post if we believe an important point has not been voiced.
- Website: Any products developed by EI SIG, newsletter articles, links to EI state guidelines, SIG general information are posted on website.
- SoP has twitter, live tweet chats, LinkIn, pinterest <http://pinterest.com/aptasop/boards/>. At this time EI SIG does not have plans to have separate accounts but will provide feedback / participate with SoP to ensure EI related topics are included.
- **Other thoughts regarding directions for communication and networking including social media?**
 - **One participant stated as a student she and her classmates use social media such as Facebook and Twitter (#dptstudents-twitter) and encouraged the SIG to reach out with social media. Tricia Catalino explained the Section’s twitter account that covers information for all members. During conferences and events, twitter feeds are active but a trial of a twitter session on a topic of interest to EI did not attract member participation. The EI SIG has their own facebook page where resources are frequently posted.**

8. ***Continuing Education Planning Subcommittee*** (Tricia (chair), Lisa C, Priscilla).

- Planned for EI-related programming for SoPAC 2014, participated in review of proposals for CSM, and coordinated submission for two educational sessions for APTA Next Conference 2014.
- Regional presentations in VA and PA
- Google Hangout / You tube video dissemination of a panel discussing what it looks like in EI to support family activities and routines is being planned for the spring
- SoPAC 2015: submitted proposal for two concurrent sessions on Inter-professional Education: Developing Unified Personnel Standards for Early Childhood Intervention Across Professional Disciplines
- CSM 2016: ***Anyone considering submitting a proposal on a topic related to EI? NO ONE REPONDED***
- Long term goal to sponsor an Interdisciplinary conference with OT and ASHA (both organizations are interested in the idea)
- ***Suggestions for topics and speakers for future conferences?***
 - **Sheree York and Elisa Kennedy: Transition from NICU to EI and lifespan outcomes for children born premature for NEXT conference 2015**
 - **Sue Rabinowitz – it would be great to communicate about collaboration with the DEC or other disciplines; how we collaborate and contribute to participation of children across domains – EI SIG has submitted on this topic for SOPAC 2015**
 - **Lisa inquired if members were interested in hearing about sleep? feeding and nutrition? No members on the call expressed interest in these topics**
 - **Sue Rabinowitz: suggested the topic of maternal depression**

9. ***Development of Recommendations for Translating EI competencies into practice subcommittee.*** Strategic plan item: Roadmap / learning plan / self-reflection guide / assessment guide to translate competencies into practice. Have tried a variety of formats and are currently revising a draft that provides an example of a professional development guide related to the intervention competencies. (Lisa C (chair), Tricia, Rita Guthrie, Priscilla)

10. ***EI to Preschool transition workgroup.*** In collaboration with School SIG developed an EI to preschool transition communication form which is now posted on the website. (Denise Swensen (chair), Tricia Catalino, Lisa Chiarello, and Tracy Stoner).

11. ***NICU to EI transition workgroup.*** In collaboration with Neonatology SIG, developing a NICU to EI transition communication form. (Paula Cox (co-chair), Audrey Wood, Lisa Katzman)

12. ***State Practice Act and Service Delivery in Early Intervention Resource task force:*** Guidance to therapist communicating with their state and EI agency on how practice act guides

their service delivery with early intervention. Resource document in progress (Priscilla, Rita Guthrie, and Courtney Pickel)

13. ***Strategic plan item on resource to advocate for meaningful personnel review process in school and EI.*** In the past had not been identified as a priority for EI. ***Any updates on need for this? No need noted at this time.***

14. ***Interest in connecting younger generation EI PTs*** (Rita and Priscilla). ***Any ideas?***

15. ***Fact sheet on Relationship-based approach to EI*** Draft near completion (Sue Rabinowitz, Barb Pizzutilo, Krista Kellog) **-FINE TUNING AND SENDING to leadership for review this week**

16. ***Fact sheet on Fun with Movement:*** Draft near completion (Elisa Kennedy and Priscilla)

17. ***Fact sheet on Telehealth in EI:*** Lisa met with Maryanne Legunnis and Amie Locicero to discuss focus and format of fact sheet. Resources and articles are being reviewed on the topic.