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Title: Understanding Developmental Coordination Disorder, known as Dyspraxia: Insights from UK Families and Implications for Policy and Practice”

Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD), known as Dyspraxia, affects approximately 5% of children in the UK, is still poorly recognised and insufficiently supported. Dr. Sinani will present data from the largest national survey carried out in the UK accompanied by an individual with lived experience.

Over 240 parents revealed the breadth of its impact—long waits for diagnosis, inconsistent or unavailable therapy, and challenges at school, home, and in daily life. Families describe high emotional stress, limited public understanding, and a lack of coordinated care. Despite recognition at home, many parents report that formal diagnoses do little to improve support, leaving children struggling academically, socially, and psychologically. Beyond difficulties with movement, the condition is linked to increased risk of anxiety, low physical activity, and social isolation. Parents worry about their children’s long-term well-being and prospects, while also facing barriers to support for themselves. As public understanding of neurodiversity grows, this report highlights the urgent need to include Developmental Coordination Disorder in that conversation. The new findings underscore how gaps across healthcare, education, and social services are failing thousands of families. With early intervention known to make a difference, greater awareness and systemic change are essential to reduce harm and unlock children’s potential.