Research summary
Scoping review of quality guidelines for Assistive Technology provision

Full report

About

'Assistive Technology' is descriptive of both the products and the services required to deliver AT to those who need it. Some assistive products may have standards and specifications about their design, but less is published on widely accepted AT service provision guidelines. It is critical to develop provision guidance that could be deployed around the world, to ensure we can get AT to the people who could most benefit, as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Method

The rapid scoping review utilised a two-tiered approach to identifying relevant publications: 1) systematic search of academic databases; 2) consultation with assistive technology organisations. The review was conducted in March 2023 across four databases (Medline, CINAHL, SCOPUS and Google Scholar) with no date limitations.

Highlights

- National guidelines about service provision in specific nations or regions are often written by AT organisations.
- There was a noted similarity of approach to AT provision between education and health-based guidelines.
- This review did not find established guidelines or standards for service provision, but core elements of AT provision including service delivery steps can be identified.
- This review offers a strong starting point for developing guidance for AT provision to meet global need.

8,626 records screened

17 academic papers identifed

+18 publications from AT organisations

AT2030 : testing 'what works' to enable access to life-changing assistive technology (AT) for all

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