Families of young children with different disabilities are often asked to participate in interventions for their children. We studied the strategies that were most effective at keeping parents involved in these kinds of programs.

WHAT did you find?
Parents are more likely to continue their participation in research programs when:

- Programs occur at home or in the community
- Parents are paired with a peer for shared learning, guidance, and support
- There is less oversight and more praise from a provider

WHY does it matter?
When parents are involved in their child’s treatment, it results in improvements in the child’s and family’s overall well-being. Using effective strategies for parent engagement 1) can help guide clinicians in family interactions and 2) can help us understand how to work with parents who are underrepresented.

WHAT'S NEXT?
- Identifying engagement strategies that meet the diverse needs of families and studying their effectiveness
- Future studies should use parent engagement strategies as part of the intervention, because previous work shows how important it is to keep families involved
- Future studies should clearly describe whether they use engagement strategies, what they are, and how families – especially those with diverse income and education levels – benefit from the use of those strategies.
THE FULL ARTICLE CAN BE FOUND THROUGH THIS CITATION:


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