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Developmental Language Disorder: Considerations for Achieving Practice Consistency in Canada

Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) often see children on their caseload who exhibit a persistent delay in language development for no discernable reason. Historically, there has been no consistency in the term used to describe this disorder, which has made it difficult for families to both understand and help with the problem. Recently, an international consensus of experts from majority English-speaking countries agreed on the term Developmental Language Disorder (DLD) to describe this difficulty. A similar process and considerations have been undertaken or are beginning for other languages and countries. Canadian SLPs are invited to join the discussion regarding new terms related to language disorder in children, and consider barriers and facilitators for implementing in practice.

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