

# editorial

## 2021

### ECMT TELEPRACTICE: KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE, VALUES

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As the world has been in COVID-19 pandemic mode for another year, music therapists, early childhood educators, and specialists pursued telepractice to continue services for young children and their families. Now they share evidence-based practices, field-tested in the online environment while valuing families' priorities, beliefs, and contextual factors. Learn from 110 authors residing in 40 countries about components of the three-tiered service delivery model they applied in early childhood music therapy. Get ground-breaking insights into how they adjusted, endured, and flourished during these uncertain times. Whether you aim to get inspired, improve your skills, or find resources for your everyday practice, imagine 2021 uncovers a wealth of unique information.



In this issue, you will find curated online resources for telepractice, original content from authors, and engaging tele-interventions for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, along with their parents. The featured article introduces the concept of a three-tiered service delivery model as it applies to early intervention/special education. It also defines key terms and shares resources, clinical examples, and evolving guidelines.

A literature review on the effectiveness of telepractice services, the survey snapshot about early childhood music therapy services during COVID-19, and key findings of an aerosol study with implications for working with young children keep you up-to-date as evidence-based practitioners. Research colleagues give you a glimpse into the ins and outs of transforming a project from onsite to online implementation during these uncertain times. And a curated literature list, as well as four conference reports (i.e., WCMT 2020, AMTAAus 2020, AMTA 2020, DEC 2021), inform you about the latest developments in the field.

Four inspiring reflections share the challenges and success early childhood music therapists in a school, private practice, and a global company encountered during the early stages of this crisis. Like our 11 podcast interviewees, they exemplify resilience, compassion, and dedication to young children and their families. Take their lessons learned, numerous tips, and valuable resources and make use of it in your telepractice services.

In the practice section, you will learn about screening for telepractice services, parent involvement in tele-interventions using visual supports to engage infants, toddlers, and preschoolers, and meaningful music therapy moments in individual and group sessions. Consider, apply, and assess the multimedia content (i.e., infographics, image galleries, video demonstrations, audio content, and hyperlinks) prepared by our authors and use the examples, guidelines, checklists, and social stories by sharing them with the families you serve.

For the COVID-19 “stay at home” phase lasting various lengths, the imagine team curated and distributed three music-based series for parents on social media: Music Interaction Cards, *imagine.favorites*, and *Jack Knows & Shows*. All are compiled here in the *ParentsCan* section. Also check out our wisdom section including 10 tips for utilizing music in the home environment with parents for young children’s well-being and development.

From wearing a mask, facial recognition, self-regulation, and coping skills, to supportive and positive affirmations, this year’s intervention ideas address it all. Through 12 original songs created by music therapy practitioners, children can learn about the changes happening around them. View the authors’ music videos, scan the scores on your mobile device, and be prepared for the new normal.

Bringing back our 2020 colors of us authors from 36 countries, we present brief updates of their music therapy journey through COVID-19. Observed benefits across the borders seem to be stronger relationships with families, increased access to services, and the acceptance of telepractice services. Finally, check out three inspiring book reviews and field-tested low- and high-tech online resources to expand your toolbox for telepractice services now and in the future.

Lastly, I would like to extend my thanks to Marcia Humpal who started the early childhood newsletter in 1996 that developed into today’s *imagine* magazine. She mentored, supported, and encouraged us to be innovative, thorough, and generous in creating *imagine*. As she fully retires from her editorial position, I am forever grateful for her wisdom, help, and kindness.

With gratitude,



Petra Kern, Editor-in-Chief