

# Teaching Educators About ABI: Building a User-Driven eLearning Technology

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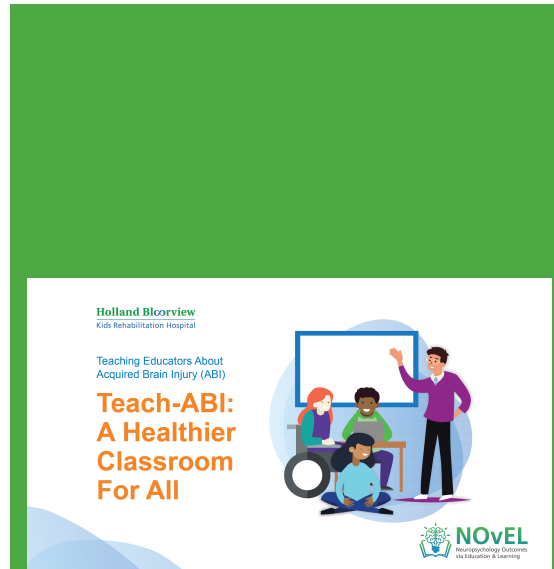
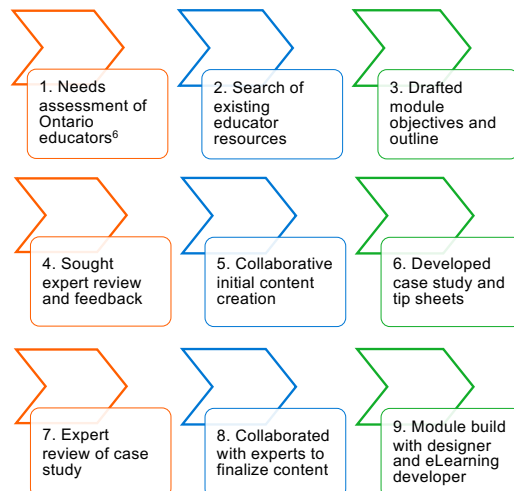
## BACKGROUND

- Educators around the globe lack knowledge about ABI and its consequences.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Although it is the leading cause of disability in children,<sup>3</sup> ABI is not recognized as a category of exceptionality in Ontario schools.<sup>4</sup>
- Ontario teachers do not receive training related to ABI at the pre-service or practicing levels.
- School reintegration interventions for ABI have the potential to improve outcomes for children with ABI.<sup>5</sup>
- The passing of Rowan's Law (Bill 193) in 2018 led to an amendment to Ontario's Education Act relating to concussion safety, which recommended increased education and awareness for teachers.
- Few evidence-based resources exist, and none meet documented educator needs.<sup>6</sup>
- Interdisciplinary knowledge development (with neuropsychologists, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, psychometrists, and community stakeholders) can provide educators with a widespread understanding of ABI.

## OBJECTIVE

To use Kern's 6 Step Model for Curriculum Development to create an innovative, user-driven eLearning intervention technology for educators about ABI that respects and includes the voices of interdisciplinary stakeholders. The present stage of research sought to finalize the eLearning build and prepare for usability testing with Ontario educators.

## METHODS



We created an innovative eLearning module for Canadian educators about acquired brain injury through interdisciplinary expert and stakeholder collaboration.

## RESULTS

### Learning Objectives

After completing the *Teach-ABI* module, educators will be able to:

- 1) Define acquired brain injury (ABI)
- 2) Identify potential challenges for students with ABI in the classroom
- 3) Discuss the importance of taking an individualized approach to supporting students with ABI
- 4) Describe how to support a student with an ABI in the Ontario education system

Case Study Approach

Two-Part Module

## NEXT STEPS: USABILITY TESTING

The objectives for the usability testing with educators are:

- 1) To determine whether educators can effectively navigate the module
- 2) To understand educators' levels of satisfaction with the module
- 3) To identify any modifications or suggestions to improve the module

## CONCLUSIONS

The long-term impact of the eLearning technology has the potential to significantly enhance educators' knowledge and awareness of ABI and promote positive outcomes and experiences for children with ABI in the Ontario education system and beyond.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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## REFERENCES

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