



# 5 SAFE Initiative

(Supporting Access For Everyone)

*Overview of Domains & Consensus Statements for Children with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (NDDs)*

## TRAINING

## COMMUNICATION

## ACCESS & PLANNING

## DEIB & ANTI-ABLEISM

## POLICY & STRUCTURAL CHANGE

Healthcare personnel must be trained in the fundamentals of NDDs, as well as the consequences of non-SAFE healthcare practices that may include trauma.

Communication should be accessible to everyone in all practice settings. Decisions for the clients with NDDs should be made in collaboration with the client's family to promote supported decision-making throughout their life span.

Collaboration between the client, families, support system, and interprofessional health care team is needed to develop patient-specific accommodations.

- Support plans
- Expertise
- Materials
- Technology
- Environmental adaptations.

People with NDDs should be included in all diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts to promote belonging in all practice settings and to recognize the impact of structural ableism.

Develop policies and remove barriers for improved, equitable, efficient, and sustainable care for people with NDDs. This includes advocating for changes affecting hospital policies, reimbursement, and payment for services.



Scan for full summary of SAFE Initiative.

Adapted from SAFE Initiatives, developed by Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) and Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics Research Network (DBPNNet)

Reference: Weitzman C, Nadler C, Blum NJ, et al. Health Care for Youth With Neurodevelopmental Disabilities: A Consensus Statement. *Pediatrics*. 2024;153(5):e2023063809

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