

**Effects of Peer Mentor in Pediatric Inpatient Rehabilitation: From Hospitalization
to Community Reintegration**

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Background: Although inpatient pediatric rehabilitation provide patients with acute medical care to improve their functioning following a traumatic injury or illness, studies have reported the critical transition period for patients as they reintegrate to the community, and the stress of adjustment to the home environment (Biffel & Biffel, 2015; Haas, Price & Freeman, 2013). This study explored the role of a peer mentor in a multidisciplinary inpatient pediatric rehabilitation and the formerly pediatrics' (now adults) perceived role of a peer mentor during hospitalization, initial discharge planning, and community reintegration. Findings from this study can help healthcare providers understand the important role of a peer mentor in patient's adjustment and overall emotional well-being.