



**Debbie Feldman**  
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Dr. Debbie Feldman is Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the School of Rehabilitation, Faculty of Medicine at Université de Montréal. She holds a BSc in physiotherapy, an MSc and PhD in epidemiology and biostatistics from McGill University.

Dr. Feldman conducts health services research in musculoskeletal disease and arthritis, investigating access to care in rehabilitation and optimal ways of prioritizing care for patients with chronic musculoskeletal problems and arthritis. This topic is important in view of the limited resources available in the healthcare system, the high number of patients on waiting lists for rehabilitation services, and the

forecasted increase in need for rehabilitation services due to the aging of the population. A recently CIHR funded project explores ethical dimensions related to access to physiotherapy, focusing on issues related to third party payers and possible conflicts of interest. Other research projects focus on: physiotherapy management of patients with musculoskeletal problems:-development of a quantitative measurement tool for posture assessment; health promotion - promoting physical activity in children and youth with juvenile idiopathic arthritis; and investigating birth outcomes in women who had juvenile idiopathic arthritis.



**Sabrina Cavallo**  
**Pediatric Occupational Therapist**

Sabrina Cavallo has worked closely with children and adolescents living with arthritis. She is presently pursuing her PhD studies within the public health framework (epidemiology option). Her interests are in pediatric disability and her research addresses the World Health Organisation (WHO) International Classification of Functioning Framework, whereby involvement in leisure activities among children and youth with arthritis is influenced by both disease-related, as well as contextual determinants of health. Understanding what factors favour participation in children and adolescents with disabilities may guide the development of therapeutic strategies and provide varying sources of support to families in promoting a more active lifestyle for their child.