Meet Claire

Claire is a staff member in your program. A new child has just enrolled who has significant disabilities. Sam uses a wheelchair and a feeding tube and has a tracheotomy. Sam has a care plan in place, and Claire has been trained on the plan. A nurse is also available for Sam. Claire comes to you very upset. She says she is overwhelmed by Sam's needs. He coughs all the time and blows out mucous. She knows from his care plan that this is normal and nothing to worry about, but she can't help but be a bit squeamish about it. She doesn't think Sam should be included in the program; his needs are just too intense, and she is losing time for the other children.

1. How do you respond to Claire's concerns? Is she being reasonable?

2. How will you involve the nurse and Sam's family?

3. Who else should Claire talk to (training and curriculum specialist, coach, nurse, health consultant) in your program?

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