ICF update 2012

ICF education provided by WCPT

ICF education sessions have been conducted in Korea for the third year running. Now a significant cohort of managers, educators, clinicians and researchers are enthusiastically implementing the ICF in their practice. Professor Haejung Lee from Silla University in Busan has been working with the WHO collaborating centre in Korea since 2009. The collaborating centre was welcomed into the WHO-FIC Network at the annual meeting in Brasilia.

Sixty five people from eight African countries attended a two day workshop on the ICF. The outcome of the workshop was a cohort of physical therapists with increased awareness of the ICF and the willingness to explore application in their own practice and in collaboration with each other and the facilitators. The workshop was supported by WHO HQ in the form of copies of the short version of the ICF and the WHO-DAS 2.0 manual. The WHO Africa Region Office has been provided with a copy of a report on the workshop.

Highlights from the WHO-FIC annual meeting in Brasilia

Changes in the WHO-FIC

Nenad Kostanjsek has been the first contact on ICF matters at WHO for a number of years. Recently he has taken on new responsibilities and the technical officer for ICF is now Molly Meri Robinson Nicol. robinsonm@who.int.

The inaugural co-chairs of the Functioning and Disability Reference Group Ros Madden (Australian Collaborating Centre) and Gerold Stucki (German Collaborating Centre) were thanked for their exemplary service since the establishment of the group. Catherine Sykes (WCPT) and Andrea Martinuzzi (Italian Collaborating Centre) were elected for the two year term from 2012-2014. The programme of work for the forthcoming year includes:

- finalising an ICF User Guide
- continuing to review update proposals;
- to undertake a project to facilitate measurement using ICF;
- to work with the Education Committee to finalise the introductory module of the ICF e-learning tool and progress work on second and subsequent modules;
- to provide input to the development of the International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI) such that interventions targeting functioning are appropriately described;
- to provide ICF expertise to the development of the ICD-11 towards complementary use of the two classifications; and
- to work with e-health experts towards the representation of ICF in computerised health information systems.

Further information on some of these projects is below.

ICF User Guide

An important new publication is well on the way to completion. The ICF User Guide has been developed by members of the Functioning and Disability Reference Group. The document includes guidance on the application of ICF in clinical practice, in administrative data collections, in population statistics and in the education system. We can hope to see this new publication in the first half of 2013.
ICF updates

In order to keep ICF accurate and current the WHO has instigated an update process, whereby anyone using the classification can propose a change to the ICF. Proposals must be substantiated by evidence. During 2010 and 2011 the WHO’s Functioning and Disability Reference Group (FDRG) successfully moved several platform proposals through the formal WHO-FIC Network review procedures. You can see the review procedures outlined in the ICF Update Platform User Guide.

Physical therapists interested in ensuring that the ICF remains current and appropriate for describing functioning and disability are encouraged to register on the ICF update platform and engage in the discussions and make proposals.

- Registering as a reviewer on the ICF Update Platform

  If you have not yet registered to serve as a reviewer on the ICF Update Platform, you will need to request registration from WHO. In that case, click on the web link for the WHO ICF Update Platform: https://extranet.who.int/icfrevision to enter the login page for the ICF Update Platform, then click on the link that reads “Not a member? Create an account.” https://extranet.who.int/icfrevision/nr/createAccount.aspx. Your request goes directly to Can Çelik at WHO celikc@who.int.

  If you are already registered as a reviewer on the ICF Update Platform, you can begin your reviewing immediately.

  If you cannot remember your username or password, enter the login page for the ICF Update Platform, then click on the link that reads “Forgot your User Name or Password?” You can also send an E-Mail request to Can Çelik at WHO.

ICF e-Learning tool

The ICF e-Learning tool available at http://p.idealday.de/104.2/icf/, has undergone pilot testing. It is currently under review by WHO. Some organisations have started on translations, however it is important to note that the e-learning tool is still draft. Translators may wish to take into account that there will be some changes being made before the tool will be released more generally.

Posters presented at the 2012 WHO-FIC Network meeting


Collaborating Centre Newsletters


Dutch – content includes, latest edition available from http://www.rivm.nl/who-fic. The current edition is the last that will be produced in paper format. You are encouraged to register to receive an electronic version of the newsletter, should you be interested.

ICF in India

The South Asia Centre for Disability Inclusive Development & Research (SACDIR) opened in 2010. One of its objectives is to ‘Organize modules on application of the International Classification of
Functioning (ICF) recommended by WHO. Other objectives aim to improve the lives of people with disabilities through research, education and training and advocacy.

Punarbhava meaning ‘renewed being’ is a national web portal on disabilities. The portal is a place to gather information, discuss issues, network, find employment, look for appliances and assistive devices, seek redress of grievances, undergo training, research and study, amongst other things. The ICF is acknowledged as a new way of considering health and functioning. WHO resources are included on the website.

The Government of India Central Bureau of Health Intelligence is conducting training courses on the WHO Family of International Classifications including ICF and its companion reference classification the International Classification of Diseases (ICD). A one week master trainer course is also conducted. The schedule for 2012-2013 is available from the website.

UNICEF and WHO discussion paper
UNICEF and the World Health Organization have collaborated on a discussion paper on Early Childhood Development and Disability. The ICF definitions and framework are used to define disability.

ICF-CY Developmental Code Sets
Sub sets of ICF that define standard minimum content areas to document child functioning by developmental age group have been developed as a strategy to increase the utility of the ICF-CY in clinical and research settings.

‘In 2010, an international study was conducted to derive reduced item developmental code sets from the ICF-CY (Ellingsen, K.E. & Simeonsson, R.J). This study builds on field trial work of ICF version for children and youth (ICF-CY) in Sweden (Björck-Åkesson, Granlund, & Ibragimovaand, 2005) and I-CY-HAB forms 1-3 developed at Mälardalen University (Adolfsson, Pless, Ibragimova, Granlund, & Bjorck-Akesson, 2007). Age-based reduced item sets were developed by consensus from a diverse international group of experts. Professionals from all major regions of the world participated in a three-round Delphi procedure, prioritizing ICF-CY codes for four different age groups. The derived ICF-CY Developmental Code Sets included codes from the domains of Activities/Participation, Body Functions and Environmental Factors.’ The four code sets are for ages 0-2, 3-5, 6-12 and 13-17.

WHO-DAS 2.0
WHODAS 2.0 is a practical instrument designed to measure general levels of health and disability. The instrument is based on the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF).

The WHO-DAS 2.0 manual and tools are available on the WHO website. Members of the Korean Physical Therapy Association and the Finnish Association of Physiotherapists have been involved in translations into their national languages. If you have been involved in translating any of the WHO resources please let me know so that the news can be shared across the WCPT network for ICF.

News to share
If you have news to share, require further information on any of the topics above or have a question regarding ICF please contact Catherine Sykes at csykes@wcpt.org.
Appendix 1

C500  A Rasch analysis of ICF categories in patients with spinal cord injury
      Battauz M, Rizzi L, Anzilutti S, Frattura L

C501  Adjustments made on BCP evaluation ICF-based tool for children
      Di Nubila H, Marcelino MA, Freitas MJ, Laurenti R

C502  Application of ICF framework to CBR Káloie, we are the same fruits of the land
      Sasaki T

C503  Basic Nucleus of Costa Rica: Disability Information Register System
      Sasaki T

C504  Capturing with ICF-CY the complexity of functioning and disability of maltreated children
      Cerniauskaite M, Sala D, Leonardi M

C505  Clinical management in Hospital-Household and Household-Community interfaces in children with physical disabilities using ICF CY
      Cofré CD

C506  Coding Environmental Factors for the component Body functions and Body structures: first results from a field trial in Italy.
      Frattura L, Rizzi L, Anzilutti S

C507  Empowerment with ICF in Brunca Region of Costa Rica
      Sasaki T

C508  Functional Evaluation with ICF of elder people in Cuba
      Hierrezuelo S, Arencibia H

C509  Functioning assessment versus conventional medical assessment

C510  How should be the Preventive and Supportive Programs at the Time of Disasters: The Official Recognition of the ICF-based Programs founded on the Experiences of many Disasters in Japan since 2004
      Okawa Y, Ueda S, Kudo M, Oikawa E, Kasamatsu J, Tani N, Fujiyama H

C511  ICF implementation in Argentina: Training and research activities
      Olivera G, Boasso J, Zubiaurre B
C525  The Application and Reliability Verification of ICF Qualifier in the Republic of Korea - Focused on Body Function and Structure Factors  

C526  The COURAGE in EUROPE Project: Health and disability on Ageing population of Poland, Spain and Finland  
Leonardi M, Quintas R, Raggi A on behalf COURAGE in Europe Consortium

C527  The ICF mountain and a tiny little mouse: a preliminary literature review on how ICF data are collected and statistically analyzed  
Rizzi L, Frattura L, Anzilutti S, Battauz M

C528  The Importance of the Distinction of ‘Universal Independence’ and ‘Limited Independence’ in the Qualifiers of Activity: Its Influence on the Decline of Functioning after the Disaster  
Okawa Y, Ueda S, Kudo M, Oikawa E, Kasamatsu J, Tani N

C529  The Occurrence of Functioning Problems in Persons with Disabilities following Disaster  

C530  The relations between the ICF components  
Perenboom R, Wijlhuizen GJ

C531  Usefulness of ICF-CY to define functioning and disability: a study on very low birth weight infants  
Giovannetti AM, Picciolini O, Sabbadini S, Gangi S, Mosca F, Raggi A, Leonardi M

C532  Using ICF in the analysis of dental absenteeism  
Togna G, Di Nubila H, Laurenti R, Crosato E

C533  Using the ICF framework for collecting information on the barriers to inclusion in children in the Republic of Kosovo. Design and preliminary results.  

C534  Using the ICF to assess and promote inclusive education in Italy: a bottom-up approach for defining national recommendations.  
Frattura L, Ciambrone R, Simoneschi G

C535  Women with disability in Europe: The need to collect data in accordance with the UN Convention for the Rights of People with Disability and the biopsychosocial framework of ICF  
Quatrini A, Covelli V, Leonardi M
C536  Application of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health-ICF-in scales to assess loss of earning capacity in Colombia
Rodríguez E, Alonso C, Suárez H

C537  Development of ICF core sets to be used for patients with neural tube defects

C538  The ICF provides building blocks in the development of a CBR monitoring toolkit

C539  Information of people with disabilities: An interagency effort in Mexico

C540  Qualification of Disability: IVÁDEC – CIF (ICF)
Soto H, Vivanco J

C541  Developing a Model Disability Survey (MDS)
Kostanjsek N, Chatterji S, Officer A, Posarac A, Cieza A, Üstün TB

C542  Transforming health professions education by applying ICF framework
Snyman S, Goliath C, Clarke M, Conradie H

C543  Translating WHODAS 2.0 12-item versions into the Korean language and cultural adaptation
Haejung Lee, Dajeong Kim, Junkyu Kim, & Changhyun Seong

C544  ICFHTML-Online Development of a HTML–Online version

C  Building ICF expertise in Africa
Sykes C, Jelsma J.