

## ICF Update

The world of ICF is expanding with many different uses of the classification. This update lists sources of information on a range of ICF related topics; a sample only of the large number of activities that are going on around the world, and largely from the English speaking world. If you would like to share information please use the [ICF Forum](#) on the WCPT website. Thank you. WCPT would like to hear of ICF applications in countries where English is not the first language.

### World Physical Therapy 2011

Join over 3,500 physical therapists from around the world at the 16th International WCPT Congress. 20-23 June 2011, Amsterdam, Netherlands. There is a strong programme of ICF related topics including a [focused symposium](#), [satellite programme education session](#) and a [networking session](#). In addition to these components of the programme dedicated to the ICF, a number of presenters are using the ICF as a component of their programme or presentation. You may [sign up](#) on the WCPT website to receive congress updates on the event.

### Guidelines based on ICF

The orthopaedic section of the American Physical Therapy Association is revising its guidelines in line with ICF. The guidelines on [Achilles](#) tendon impairments and [knee](#) impairments are open for review. [Guidelines](#) including those on [Heel Pain - Plantar Fasciitis, Neck Pain, Hip Pain and Mobility Deficits - Hip Osteoarthritis, and Knee Stability and Movement Coordination Impairments - Knee Ligament Sprain Clinical Practice Guidelines](#) are published in the Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy and available online.

### The latest from the World Health Organization meeting in October 2011

#### ICF updates

The ICF is almost 10 years old. The version for children and youth (ICF-CY) was derived to expand the ICF codes and definitions to encompass the developing person. This work identified more than 200 separate issues that will feed into the next version of ICF. The proposed updates were entered into the online update platform and the whole update process tested during 2010. A total of 15 issues were considered and agreed as the first updates for the classification. To be able to submit and review proposals you need to register on the platform <https://extranet.who.int/icfrevision/nr/loginICF.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2ficfrevision%2fDefault.aspx>. A user guide explaining the ICF update process is available on the platform.

#### Educational materials

A two side of A4 information sheet on ICF and an 8 sided ICF overview are available to promote the use of ICF. The information sheet is a brief outline of the structure and purpose of

the classification, where the Overview is designed to replace the outdated introduction to ICF that is currently on the WHO website. Both of these documents are available for download from the WCPT website ICF pages at [www.wcpt.org/icf](http://www.wcpt.org/icf)

The introductory module of the ICF e-learning tool, which many of you were involved in testing is available at <http://p.ideaday.de/104.2/icf/>. The tool is available in English and Spanish. A translation into Portuguese is underway and the development team is keen to hear from anyone prepared to assist with translations into other languages.

Collection of case studies and examples of ICF use to inform the development of a further two modules has commenced. If you would like to be involved with the development of these modules please contact Catherine Sykes at [csykes@wcpt.org](mailto:csykes@wcpt.org).

#### Functioning properties in the International Classification of Diseases

A new piece of ICF related work, started in 2010 is to identify 'functioning properties' associated with diseases. This is a component of the revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10). Each disease code in ICD-11 will be accompanied by not only a title as in ICD-10, but also a textual definition, a description of the body structures involved and range of properties including: causal properties (aetiology, risk factors, agents, causal mechanisms and genomic linkages); manifestation properties (signs and symptoms and investigation findings); temporal properties (age of occurrence, course/stage); severity and functioning (impact on activity and participation, body functions and contextual factors). The newly established Functioning Topic Advisory Group (f-TAG) has been tasked to develop the functioning properties.

The benefits of this work will be the closer association between these two WHO reference classifications and a greater ability to recognise the need to address not only impairments, but also the other components of functioning that are within the scope of physical therapy to address.

#### The International Classification of Health Interventions

Though not strictly ICF related the development of an International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI) may be of interest to physical therapists. To date interventions classifications, used to inform case-mix, have generally concentrated on acute diagnostic, medical and surgical interventions. It is well known that case-mix systems do not address well the costs associated with rehabilitation. In an effort to improve case-mix systems the WHO is developing an International Classification of Health Interventions. It is essential that physical therapy interventions are represented in ICHI if there is to be reasonable allocation of resources to physical therapist services, and the consequent benefits for the people accessing those services. It is important to ensure that physical therapy interventions are classified. If they are not reported, the consequence can be health policy and funding unduly focused on

expensive interventions only accessible by limited sections of the population but with high impact on health financing; an issue of equity. Without inclusion, potentially high benefit, low cost physical therapy interventions may be ignored. If you would like to be involved with the this interventions classification work please contact Catherine Sykes at [csykes@wcpt.org](mailto:csykes@wcpt.org).

### **Presentations at the World Health Organization meeting**

WHO and its network of collaborating centres for the Family of International Classifications met in Toronto, Canada in October 2010. A number of ICF related [posters and papers](#) were presented and are available on the WHO website. The titles are as follows:

- ICF Symposium “Towards Practical Use of ICF” – Education and Implementation of ICF as Common Language (D1\_10\_01p).
- Disability certification reform in Italy (D1\_10\_33p)
- Revision of Italian disability statistics according to the ICF conceptual and semantic framework (D1\_11\_035p)
- The description of “severe disability” through an ICF-based approach in a disability eligibility National study (D12\_12\_038p)
- Disseminating ICF at the Regional level: the advanced ICF training in the Veneto Region (d1\_13\_030p)
- ICF in Action: Video Podcasts to Demonstrate ICF Coding (D1\_14\_040p)
- Getting Started Using ICF Concepts and Codes in the UMLS (D1\_15\_041p)
- Functioning and disability in patients in Vegetative State and in Minimally Conscious State: a National study (D1\_17\_046p)
- ICF eLearning Tool Field test of the introductory module (D1\_18\_p)
- ICF Knowledge Sharing Collaborative in Canada (d1\_19\_049p)
- Japan's Provisional Criteria for the Qualifiers of the Activity: The reconfirmation of validity and a further refinement based on a large scale survey of people with disabilities (D1-2\_003P)
- Electronic data capture for ICF: new work on the e-FRHOM (D1\_20\_051p)
- Enhancing Our Understanding of the ICF (D1\_24p)
- Ten years of ICF implementation in the Americas (D1\_24p)
- First International course for instructors for using the ICF (D1\_25p)

- Impairment Revisited: Multiplicity of impairments in a person, fatigability (b4552), and the great fluctuation of impairment (D1\_3\_004p)
- The importance of satisfaction (subjective dimension) for a deeper understanding of the activity and participation as revealed by a large-scale survey of people with disabilities (D1\_4\_005p)
- Nine years of the ICF use in cases of Cerebral Palsy: A bibliometric study (D1\_5\_008p)
- New Disability Data in France (D1\_6\_013p)
- For a meta-analysis of models of understandability of disability (D1\_7\_15p)
- ICF applications in the Netherlands and future directions (d1\_9\_24p)
- Analysis of relationships in ICF using an upper level ontology (P1\_2\_026p)
- Disease evaluation with ICF and ICPC-2 for disease control (P1\_3\_002p)
- Influence of Functional and Contextual criteria on Length of Sick Leave Certificates in France (P1\_4\_014p)
- Indexing rare diseases with the ICF: Towards ICD-11 and ICF interconnections (P1\_6\_061p)
- Application of ICF codes to the existing data A case study from Nakorn-panom province, Thailand (P1\_8\_044p)
- Application of ICF Two-Level Classification of Disability Types in Korea (P1\_9\_050p)
- Country reported disability prevalence: problems and prospects (P1\_1\_D045p)

#### **ICF conference in Bethesda**

The North American Collaborating Centre hosted a two day conference with the theme 'Enhancing Our Understanding of the ICF'. Participants attended in person and also remotely. Videocasts of the conference are available at:

- Day One, June 23: <http://videocast.nih.gov/summary.asp?Live=9397> (7 hours, 19 minutes)
- Day Two, June 24: <http://videocast.nih.gov/summary.asp?Live=9398> (6 hours, 35 minutes)

#### **ICF Knowledge Sharing Collaborative in Canada**

The Canadian Institute of Health Information hosted a meeting to develop an ICF Knowledge Sharing Collaborative in Canada. [The report of the meeting](#) and an outline of the ICF related work in Canada are available

### **Family of International Classifications Newsletter from the Netherlands**

There is a new edition of [the Family of International Classifications Newsletter](#) from the Netherlands. This edition includes information on:

- the collaborative arrangement between WHO and the International Health Terminology Standards Development Organization;
- the work of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics;
- the relationship between ICF and the classification and terminology of assistive products for persons with disability (ISO9999);

as well as a scan of various ICF projects around the world.