Applications of the ICF and lessons learned

A one-day symposium on 25 June 2019

This symposium is an opportunity for researchers, practitioners and policy makers to hear about diverse applications of the ICF and to discuss, network, and share information.

Date: Tuesday 25 June 2019
Time: 8.45 am to 4.30 pm
Venue: University of Sydney, New Law Building Annexe, New Law SR 022
Applications of the ICF and lessons learned
A one-day symposium on 25 June 2019
at the University of Sydney

This symposium is an opportunity for researchers, practitioners and policy makers to hear about diverse applications of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) and to discuss, network, and share information.

The Symposium includes four sessions, the first three involving 3-4 short presentations followed by a forum discussion. Two brainstorm sessions will also enliven the day. The final session will draw together common themes of the day, and there will be a group discussion of lessons learned and future directions for ICF application – whether for research, education, statistical, clinical or service use. The symposium has been organised to take advantage of three international speakers attending the International Society on Early Intervention Conference. There will be a major (but not exclusive) focus on the ICF and children’s functioning and disability, with a range of speakers from universities, research groups and organisations in Australia and overseas.

Confirmed international speakers:

- Rune Simeonsson
  - ICF-CY and children: accomplishments and next steps.
- Mats Granlund
  - Conceptualizing change with the help of ICF-CY – is it possible?
- Eva Björck-Akesson
  - ICF-CY as a basis for collaborative problem solving in early childhood intervention – a focus on inclusion

The symposium is organised by the ICF Australia Interest Group. Attendance is by invitation. You can read more about the ICF, the Group and its aims on http://sydney.edu.au/health-sciences/icf/ . For updated information, please see this website or email: fhs.icf@sydney.edu.au

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea are provided free of charge, courtesy of the National Centre for Classification in Health (NCCH).
# Program: Tuesday 25 June 2019

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<td>08.45 – 09.00 am</td>
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<td><strong>The WHO Family of International Classifications – family relationships</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Facilitator: Richard Madden</strong>&lt;br&gt;</td>
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<td>VERA DIMITROPOULOS Use of the ICF in ICD-11: The Supplementary V codes</td>
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<td>SUE LUKERSMITH Coding person-centred goals using the ICF browser</td>
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<td>CATHIE SHERRINGTON Use of the ICF to guide the choice of outcome measures in large scale randomised controlled trials undertaken in older people</td>
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<td>ANNE CUSICK Using the ICF in process evaluations of complex multifactorial behavioural interventions in community dwelling populations</td>
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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

VAIA ARSENOPOULOU

Vaia Arsenopoulou is the Speech Therapy Services Supervisor at Theotokos Foundation in Athens, Greece. After completing her studies at La Trobe University, she worked with children with physical disabilities. Since moving to Greece in 2000, she has been working with children and young adults with autism and/or intellectual disability. She specializes in Early Intervention, AAC, integration into mainstream schooling, as well as Quality Management of Rehabilitation Services. She is a member of the Greek ICF team and has been involved in training, research and adapting the ICF for assessment, clinical and education purposes for various organisations in Greece and Cyprus.

EVA BJÖRCK-AKESSON

Eva Björck, Ph.D., is Professor of Special Education, School of Education and Communication, Jönköping University, Sweden. Her interests and expertise are in early childhood intervention, inclusion in Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC), ICF-CY, and alternative and augmentative communication, and she has published extensively in these fields. Eva was Secretary General of the Swedish Research Council, Educational Sciences, from 2013 to 2018 and she has served on a range of other national and international committees. She was a Member of the World Health Organization (WHO) ICF task force for children and youth between 1999 and 2007.

ANNE CUSICK

Anne Cusick is currently Professor and Chair of Occupational Therapy at The University of Sydney (2016+) and Emeritus Professor Western Sydney University (2011+). She has a 40-year career with academic appointments in occupational therapy, allied health, interprofessional health and social science, as well as leadership roles in higher education academic governance. She is a registered occupational therapist, an inaugural Fellow of the OT Australia Research Academy, and is nationally acknowledged for distinguished service in occupational therapy education and research as the 17th recipient of the biennial Sylvia Docker Memorial Lecture of OT Australia. She is Editor in Chief of the Australian Occupational Therapy Journal (AusOTJ), highly ranked in global occupational therapy and rehabilitation journals. She is a founding and continuing member of the Cochrane Rehabilitation Group Advisory Board and led the establishment of a Cochrane Corner in the AusOTJ. Anne’s 2001 Sylvia Docker Lecture provided a milestone in Australian occupational therapy awareness and promotion of evidence-based practice and application of the ICF in occupational therapy practice, research and education. For nearly 20 years she has worked through curriculum, teaching, research training, research projects and research dissemination to promote understanding and informed use of the ICF in occupational therapy and rehabilitation.

VERA DIMITROPOULOS

With a background in Health Information Management, Vera was the Executive Manager, Classification Development at the National Centre for Classification in Health at the University of Sydney until 2017 and now leads the Centre as Co-Director, together with Richard Madden. She is also a member of the Education and Implementation Committee within the World Health Organization’s Family of International Classifications Network and is working on ICD-11 as part of the International Joint Task Force.

Vera is currently on the Board of the Health Information Management Association of Australia (HIMAA) and is a Visiting Fellow at Western Sydney University working on the development of the Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology (Health Information Management). Vera is also Director for the Western Pacific Region, International Federation of Health Information Management Associations.

As well as her teaching roles within the University of Sydney and Western Sydney University, Vera has in the past managed major classification projects for the University of Sydney, most recently, the development of the AR-DRG Classification System which incorporates ICD-10-AM/ACHI/ACS and the AR-DRG classifications.
NICOLA FORTUNE

Nicola Fortune is a Research Fellow with the NHMRC Centre for Research Excellence in Disability and Health and the National Centre for Classification in Health at the University of Sydney. Nicola’s expertise is in disability and health data development and analysis. She was involved in the development and early implementation of the ICF in Australia, and has contributed to the development of the WHO’s International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI). Nicola is currently working on the development of a monitoring framework and indicators for tracking inequities in the social determinants of the health for Australians with disabilities.

MATS GRANLUND

Mats Granlund, PhD, Professor, Chair CHILD research environment, Jönköping University. Mats is a licensed psychologist and professor in psychology and disability science at Jönköping University and professor of Special Education at Oslo University. Mats has long experience of working with research focusing on the life situation of children with impairments or long-term health conditions and their living environments. A special focus in the research has been participation – both as presented in the ICF-CY and as a topic of its own. Published papers and book chapters have concerned conceptualizations of participation, how to assess and evaluate participation, and interventions focused on participation both as a means and an end. In recent years the focus has been more and more on changes in participation over time in children and adolescents with impairments or long term health conditions.

BRONWYN HEMSLEY

Professor Bronwyn Hemsley is Head of Speech Pathology at UTS. A certified practising speech pathologist, she is also a Fellow of Speech Pathology Australia, and Fellow of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication. With almost 10 years postdoctoral experience Bronwyn has been awarded $1.7M in research funding enabling development of a comprehensive program of research relating to the use of Information Communication Technologies in the field of Communication Disability, and the care and safety of people with severe communication impairments. Bronwyn has co-edited three Special Issues of journals (Disability and Rehabilitation, on Social Media and Communication; and Developmental Neurorehabilitation, on Communication Rehabilitation, and of Augmentative and Alternative Communication). She is currently an Editor-in-Chief of the Augmentative and Alternative Communication journal, the flagship journal of the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC). Her research on the use of Twitter by people with communication disability reflects her high level of engagement in using social media as a communication technology. Bronwyn is co-administrator for the world’s only rotation curation Twitter account for speech pathologists, @WeSpeechies, a worldwide network designed to connect speech pathologist researchers, teachers, and students with each other for professional development and with the public for improved engagement and public health.

DAVID KELLETT

David is a Senior Staff Specialist in Rehabilitation Medicine working for the Hunter New England Local Health District in the area of neurological disability. He has an interest in the practical application of Health Classifications in clinical practice with his PhD thesis on this topic currently under examination.

GWYNNYTH LLEWELLYN

Professor Gwynnyth Llewellyn, PhD FIASSIDD, is Professor of Family and Disability Studies at the University of Sydney. She is Co-Director of the Centre of Research Excellence in Disability and Health, leads the WHO Collaborating Centre on Strengthening Rehabilitation Capacity in Health Systems, and is a stream leader in the Centre for Disability Research and Policy. Her research aims to bring about inclusive societies for children with disabilities and families headed by parents with disabilities. Her work focuses on inequities, with a particular focus on discrimination, abuse and neglect, and the lifelong impact on health and wellbeing.
SUE LUKERSMITH

For over 20 years, Sue (PhD, M. Ergonomics, B.App.Sc (OT)) worked across health and disability sectors as a therapist, educator, consultant and then managing director of a multi-disciplinary rehabilitation practice. Sue has worked as a researcher since 2004 on numerous projects: clinical practice guidelines (methodologist and developer); community based health services – implementation and policy; researcher and writer for two WHO international reports (World Report on Disability, International Perspectives on Spinal Cord Injury); design, implementation and evaluation of a person-centred planning approach for people with complex needs (My Plan) – and has over 40 publications. At the University of Sydney her research involved developing a monitoring and evaluation toolkit for international Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) programs, policy papers and reports for state and national government. Sue’s doctoral research involved the development of a taxonomy for case management, dissemination and analysis of the taxonomy’s impact in policy, research and practice in Australian and International contexts. She continues her research into person-centred integrated health care, community based case management, implementation and health systems research. She is a freelance lead researcher within practice organisations, holds a part-time research fellow position at the Australian National University, and is a part-time lecturer and research associate at the University of Sydney.

RICHARD MADDEN

Richard Madden, Ph.D, is Co-Director of the National Centre for Classification in Health, an international centre of excellence in health classifications. The Centre has responsibility for the Australian modification of the WHO’s International Classification of Diseases (ICD) and the Australian Classification of Health Interventions, and until the end of June 2017, the Australian casemix grouper, the AR-DRG classification. Richard has led the WHO effort since 2007 to develop an International Classification of Health Interventions, with the latest Beta-2 version released in October 2018. He chaired/co-chaired the WHO Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC) Family Development Committee from 2000 to 2012. The Committee is responsible for expanding the Family and seeking alignment across classifications. He chaired the WHO-FIC Network from 2003 to 2005.

ROSAMOND MADDEN

Ros Madden, AM M.Sc. Ph.D., has worked on disability information, statistics and research since 1992, in leadership roles at the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) and then at the University of Sydney, where she is now an Honorary Senior Research Fellow. In the AIHW she led publications on the definition, prevalence and diversity of disability, and pioneering estimates of unmet need for disability support services. She led the development of national data standards for functioning and disability, and the development and management of national data collections. She has served on national and state advisory groups.

Ros worked nationally and internationally on developing and applying the WHO’s International Classification of Functioning Disability and Health (ICF), was co-chair of the technical group advising the World Health Organization on the ICF (2006-2012) and was a member of the Editorial Committee for the World Report on Disability (2007-2011).

JANE MCCORMACK

Jane McCormack, Ph.D., is associate professor and Head of Discipline for Speech Pathology at the Australian Catholic University, and Assistant Deputy Head of the School of Allied Health. She is a certified practicing member of Speech Pathology Australia and has worked in community health clinics, schools, early intervention settings and brain injury rehabilitation services with children who have speech, language and communication needs. Jane conducts research into the life experiences of children with speech and language difficulties and their families, the application of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) in speech pathology, collaborative practice, and alternative models of speech pathology education and service delivery. She has presented her research nationally and internationally, including invited presentations relating to the ICF and speech pathology at conferences in the US and UK. Jane has over 50 publications, including 2 books and 15 book chapters in texts for students of speech pathology and education.
SHARYNNE MCLEOD

Sharynne McLeod, Ph.D. is professor in speech and language acquisition at Charles Sturt University, Australia. She is an elected Fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Life Member of Speech Pathology Australia, co-chair of the International Expert Panel on Multilingual Children’s Speech, and deputy chair of the child speech committee of the International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics (auspiced by the World Health Organization). In 2018 Professor McLeod was named Australia’s Research Field Leader in Audiology, Speech and Language Pathology. She has been an Australian Research Council Future Fellow and has co-authored 10 books, over 200 journal articles and book chapters. Professor McLeod’s research focusing on children’s speech is framed by the ICF-CY and foregrounds the right of everyone (particularly children) to participate fully in society. In June 2019, she will present her research at the United Nations and has been an invited speaker at conferences and universities in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, New Zealand, Netherlands, Taiwan, Turkey, Viet Nam, UK, and US. Her Multilingual Children’s Speech website (http://www.csu.edu.au/research/multilingual-speech) has free resources in over 60 languages.

MICHAEL MILLINGTON

Michael (Ph.D., CRC) is an associate of the Health Workforce Development in Rehabilitation and Long Term Care WHO Collaborating Centre and senior lecture at the University of Sydney in the discipline of rehabilitation counselling. His 34-year career in the field of rehabilitation counselling has balanced research, teaching and practice around the theme of “full community inclusion in a fully inclusive community”. He has been the author and lead investigator on a variety of capacity-building grant projects in the United States and the Asia/Pacific region on issues of inclusive education, expanding employment opportunities, and advancing education in Community-Based Rehabilitation and Community-Based Inclusive Development. Apropos to this symposium, he has integrated the ICF into graduate curriculum and is currently designing the ICF into the frame of the professional competence standards for the Rehabilitation Counselling Association of Australasia.

CATHIE SHERRINGTON

Professor Cathie Sherrington FAHMS, PhD, MPH, BAppSc (Physio) is a Professorial Research Fellow and National Health and Medical Research Council Senior Research Fellowship holder at the School of Public Health and Institute for Musculoskeletal Health, University of Sydney/ Sydney Local Health District, where she leads the Physical Activity, Ageing and Disability Research Stream. Her research focuses on the design and evaluation of falls prevention and exercise interventions for older people and those with disabilities. She has authored 227 refereed journal articles, including reports of 32 clinical trials and 17 systematic reviews, and has been a Chief Investigator on NHMRC grants totalling over $19 million. She was one of the founders of PEDro, the Physiotherapy Evidence Database www.pedro.org. Prior to completing a PhD and Masters of Public Heath, Cathie was a physiotherapist in aged care and rehabilitation settings.

RUNE SIMEONSSON

Rune J. Simeonsson, PhD, MSPH Professor of Education & Senior Fellow, FPG Child Development Institute, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA. His teaching and research interests focus on assessment and classification of development, functioning and disability of children and the role of environments related to their health, education and well-being. He has engaged in consultation on child development and disability with UN agencies as well as with countries in Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and Eastern and Western Europe. He served as chair of the WHO work group to develop the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health version for Children and Youth (ICF-CY) and served on the WHO committee to revise the diagnosis of Intellectual Developmental Disorder in ICD-11.
ABSTRACTS

VAIA ARSENOPOULOU: Use of a digital ICF-CY documentation system with a linked goal bank in Early Intervention and its effects on interdisciplinary team functioning

The Early Intervention Program at Theotokos Foundation in Greece provides intensive education and therapy services to pre-schoolers with intellectual developmental disorders or autism spectrum disorders, as well as supporting their families, with the aim of inclusion in mainstream kindergartens. Digital ICF-CY tools have been used for the past four years to document assessment results, create Individual Plans and track progress. The path towards adopting the biopsychosocial model has created a shift in services provided and in the types of goals set, and has improved interdisciplinary communication and coordination.

ANNE CUSICK: Using the ICF in process evaluations of complex multifactorial behavioural interventions in community dwelling populations

Process evaluations are intentional, prospective and systematic investigations of the implementation of any enterprise conducted to achieve a particular aim. In rehabilitation research, process evaluations usually investigate the feasibility, efficiency and experience of interventions implemented to achieve health care outcomes. To date, literature relating to process evaluations has focussed on strategies to scope, scale and systematize data. Quantitative data usually targets parameters prospectively identified as potent factors in per-protocol adherence and efficacy. Qualitative data typically reveals perceptions of people involved in the program – usually around satisfaction and suggestions for change. Once analysed, this data may piece together an account of what happened, when, by whom, where, and how. Lessons learned, questions unanswered, interests served, efficiencies lost and impacts missed, can then be identified. The account should reflect and be informed by the characteristics and complexities of the field. Rehabilitation process evaluations thus need to ensure that analytic elements are framed in ways that make examination of the program or project life cycle meaningful for rehabilitation. This presentation explores novel ways the ICF can be used in process evaluations to prospectively frame questions, focus analytic elements, select analysis platforms and approaches, and ensure process evaluation findings are meaningful not only from the standpoint of the project lifecycle but for the field of rehabilitation.

VERA DIMITROPOULOS: Use of the ICF in ICD-11: The Supplementary V codes

This presentation will focus on the ‘V Supplementary section for functioning assessment’ within the International Classification of Diseases, Eleventh Revision (ICD-11) for Mortality and Morbidity Statistics. It is a new addition to ICD-11 and was not found in past ICD editions. Historically, the ICD has used certain disability concepts as common disease or disorder entities, such as: Blindness, Deafness, Mental Retardation, Learning Disability, or Paraplegia and ‘limitation of activities due to disability’. The V section of ICD-11 has been created both to share concepts and be used jointly with the ICF to describe a person’s health condition and its impact.

This chapter contains three subsections derived from three main generic assessment instruments for health, functioning and disability:

- WHO Disability Assessment Schedule (WHODAS 2.0 36-item version)
- Brief Model Disability Survey
- Generic functioning domains, a subset of functioning categories derived from the ICF.

All three instruments are aligned with ICF domains and their categories. It is assumed that WHO’s intention is that the three instruments can be used together or separately to assess the functioning and the degree of disability. If a detailed functioning profile is required, the ICF should be used, available at the WHO website http://www.who.int/classifications/icf/en/

The presentation will also highlight some of the issues that have been found during the development of an ICD-11 electronic training tool in which the V Section is included.
NICOLA FORTUNE: Use of the ICF in the International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI)
The International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI) is the newest member of the WHO Family of International Classifications. Once finalised, ICHI will provide a standard basis for collecting, aggregating, analysing, and comparing data on health interventions across all sectors of the health system. Together, ICD, ICF and ICHI will provide a powerful toolkit for capturing information about health conditions, functioning, and the interventions delivered to support and promote the health of individuals and populations.

ICHI is a tri-axial classification, with each intervention described in terms of a Target, an Action and a Means. The full range of ICF Body Functions, Activities and Participation domains and Environmental Factors are included as Targets in ICHI. These ICF Targets are used to describe investigative interventions, interventions to improve the functioning of body systems, interventions to support people in activities and participation, and interventions to ameliorate environmental barriers for people with disability.

This presentation will give an overview of the use of ICF within ICHI, with examples to illustrate how ICF and ICHI can be used together to capture comprehensive information on a person’s functioning, functioning-related goals, needs for assistance, interventions delivered, and outcomes.

DAVID KELLETT: Classificatory Togetherness: how can we integrate the WHO-FIC in clinical practice?

The WHO Family of International Classifications provides clinicians with multiple frameworks with which patient presentations can be variously interpreted. Frequently, patient presentations benefit from the integration of WHO-FIC frameworks where application of a single classification is inadequate to meaningfully address the problems at hand. The question of how best to integrate the classifications of the WHO-FIC in clinical practice remains open and appeals to an exploration of the concept of togetherness. To that end, an analogy of togetherness will be presented, following which a clinical tool designed to maximise integration of the WHO-FIC in clinical practice will be described. A brief worked example of the clinical tool will be provided, focused on an adolescent with epilepsy and developmental disability undergoing transition to adult health-care services.

SUE LUKE SMITH: Coding person-centred goals using the ICF browser

Social insurance Schemes, such as the NDIS and icare NSW, undertake individualised planning with Scheme participants. Typically, a case manager (planner or support coordinator) is involved to assist the person to establish personal goals, determine supports needed and thereby funding.

As part of a larger project on case management, goal descriptors were extracted from file reviews of 107 participants of icare NSW. The participant’s goal concept (intent) was recorded retrospectively from information in reports and then coded to the ICF using the browser. Goals at three time periods over 10 years were recorded and coded.

Full use and application/use of the coding of goal concepts is yet to be completed. Analysis of the goal concept according to domain and code will lead to a better understanding of the person’s progress and pathway to resume activities and participation.

The ICF browser and key word search feature enhanced time, efficiencies, accuracies and variability of chapter level. Issues included poorly-articulated goals, multiple ICF codes needed for the same goal, and planning not person-centred. The ICF browser currency is not clear.
ROS MADDEN: The ICF has made a difference
Fifteen years after the publication of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF), it was worth asking: what difference has it made to the conceptualisation and measurement of functioning and disability? This presentation will provide and reflect on some answers to this question.

The ICF is used in diverse applications, settings and countries, with processes largely aligned with the ICF and intended to improve measurement and statistics: new national surveys, information systems and ICF-based instruments; and international efforts to improve disability data. Knowledge is growing about the components and interactions of the ICF model, the diverse effects of the environment on functioning, and the meaning and measurement of participation.

The ICF provides specificity and a common language in the complex world of functioning and disability and is stimulating new thinking, new applications in measurement and statistics, and the assembling of new knowledge. Nevertheless, the field needs to mature, and continue to improve measurement and statistics to underpin policies, services and outcomes.

SHARYNNE MCLEOD & JANE MCCORMACK: The application of ICF-CY to inclusion of children and young people with primary communication disability
Australian researchers, focussing on children and young people with primary communication disability, consistently use the ICF-CY as their framework. This presentation will describe over a decade of research that has addressed children’s participation by integrating knowledge about Body Structures, Body Functions, Activities and Participation, Environmental and Personal Factors for children with speech, language and communication needs.

CATHIE SHERRINGTON: Use of the ICF to guide the choice of outcome measures in large scale randomised controlled trials undertaken in older people
This presentation will overview the use of the ICF to guide the choice of outcome measures in several large scale randomised controlled trials undertaken in NSW by the presenter and colleagues. These NHMRC-funded trials have been undertaken among older people and people with physical disabilities over the past 15 years, and have focussed on assessment of activities and participation within the mobility domain of the ICF.