

JANUARY, 2008
NORTH AMERICAN COLLABORATING CENTER
ICF NEWSLETTER

- 1) **PLEASE JOIN US IN BEAUTIFUL QUÉBEC CITY FOR THE 2008 NORTH AMERICAN COLLABORATING CENTER CONFERENCE ON THE ICF.**

LES DATES DE CONFÉRENCE SERONT LE 26-27 AOÛT, 2008.

THE CONFERENCE DATES WILL BE **AUGUST 26-27, 2008.**

MAIS LA DATE-LIMITE POUR DES RÉSUMÉS SERA LE 29 FÉVRIER, 2008!

BUT THE DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACTS WILL BE **FEBRUARY 29, 2008!**

- 2) **2006 CANADIAN "PARTICIPATION AND ACTIVITY LIMITATION SURVEY" (PALS) TABLES AND ANALYTIC REPORTS HAVE BEEN RELEASED; THE PALS QUESTIONNAIRE ADHERES TO THE ICF CONCEPTUAL MODEL.**

- 3) **CALL FOR ICF REVIEWERS: THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INVITES YOUR ON-LINE REVIEW OF THE "BODY FUNCTIONS" PORTION OF THE REVISED "CLINICAL MANUAL."**

PLEASE PARTICIPATE!

VEUILLEZ PARTICIPER !

- 4) **BRIEF REPORT: THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY 15TH WORLD CONGRESS CONVENED IN VANCOUVER IN JUNE, 2007, AND FEATURED MANY ICF PRESENTATIONS --- ABSTRACTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR YOUR REVIEW.**

- 5) **SUPPORTING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN IMPORTANT NEW JOURNAL: *DISABILITY AND HEALTH JOURNAL*, THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY.**

- 6) **"ICF-CY: A COMMON LANGUAGE FOR THE HEALTH OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH" --- THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION ROLLOUT FOR THE ICF-CY WAS CONDUCTED IN VENICE, OCTOBER 25-26, 2007.**

- 7) **"ICF SPOTLIGHT" ON SUSAN STARK, PH.D., OTR/L, FAOTA**

8) **BRIEFLY NOTED: ICF NEWS OF INTEREST**

- **The *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy* devoted a full Supplement to the ICF in July, 2007, featuring 7 articles.**
<http://www.caot.ca/default.asp?pageid=2135>
 - **"World Report on Disability and Rehabilitation": This joint WHO-World Bank Report, scheduled for publication in 2009, will feature input from the ICF research community.**
 - **The "DisAbility Forum" within the American Public Health Association (APHA) is now officially the "Disability Section." It sponsored 4 papers on the ICF during the recent 2007 APHA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.**
 - **Brief Report: The WHO-FIC Network Annual Meeting in Trieste, Italy, featured new ICF initiatives by the Functioning and Disability Reference Group, the Implementation Committee and the Education Committee.**
 - **Summary Report on "New Federal Applications of the ICF," a conference held July 10-11, 2007 in Crystal City, Virginia.**
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The Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), Statistics Canada, and the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics are pleased to serve as your hosts for the 14th Annual North American Collaborating Center Conference on the ICF. We sincerely invite your participation!

The ICF Conference dates will be **Tuesday and Wednesday, August 26 and 27, 2008**, in Québec City, *la Ville de Québec*, in the Province of Québec, Canada. The ICF Conference will actually begin with a Welcoming Reception on **Monday evening, August 25**, and begin in earnest the following morning, Tuesday, August 26.

However, please note: the deadline for submitting Abstracts will be **February 29, 2008!**

This year, the Abstract Deadline must be advanced on the calendar to ensure all our ICF Conference materials can be included in a larger Conference Program and Abstract Book that will be prepared by our conference partner during the early summer. We welcome your Abstract submissions on recent research involving the ICF, or applications of the ICF in practice.

We encourage everyone in the North American ICF Community to take advantage of this unique conference partnership opportunity. This year, the ICF Conference will be held in Québec City in conjunction with the **21st World Congress of Rehabilitation International (RI)**. The World Congress is a quadrennial event; the 20th World Congress was held in Oslo, Norway in June, 2004. Previous Congresses had been conducted in Winnipeg (1980), Lisbon (1984), Tokyo (1988), Nairobi (1992), Auckland (1996), and Rio de Janeiro (2000).

NACC would like to acknowledge the substantial contributions already invested by Professor Patrick Fougeyrollas from Université Laval in Québec, not only on behalf of NACC's interests, but also for RI itself. As one of the local hosts, Patrick has been preparing for the 2008 RI World Congress for several years, since the Oslo meeting in 2004.

The World Congress is an enormously important international event. This year, the NACC Conference on the ICF will be conducted as a separate but parallel, concurrent event during the week in which the RI World Congress will be underway, August 23-28, 2008, at the same conference venue in Québec City. That means this year's NACC ICF Conference will provide you with unique opportunities to share your knowledge about the ICF among delegates to the RI World Congress from around the globe, and to learn from them, too.

According to its website, RI "is a global and diverse organization of persons with disabilities, NGOs, government agencies, service providers and advocates who work together to advance the rights and inclusion of people with disabilities worldwide." RI was founded in 1922. Its headquarters are in New York City, with regional leadership around the world. Several thousand delegates typically attend the RI World Congress, therefore the Québec City event will be an enormously important conference about all aspects of rehabilitation. You can review descriptions about RI and the 21st World Congress, at these websites:

<http://www.riglobal.org/index.html> <http://www.riquebec2008.org/>

You can also review a description of the quadricentennial activities in Québec City at:

<http://monquebec2008.sympatico.msn.ca/MonQuebec2008/?lang=en-ca>

The theme for the 2008 NACC Conference on the ICF will be "***Evaluating Social Participation: Applications of the ICF.***"

This theme has been selected because it is meaningfully concurrent with the theme of the RI 21st World Congress, which will be "***Disability Rights and Social Participation: Ensuring A Society For All.***"

On its website for the 2008 Québec City World Congress, RI has asserted that their theme is not only consistent with the organization's priorities, but also that it will spark "international dialogue on the implementation of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities [2006]. The reality of disability is not only the problem of a social minority, since disability affects almost every person in society at some point in their lives." Surely, this conference theme is fully consistent with the ICF, too, therefore our NACC elected to accentuate that consistency by adopting a similar conference theme in 2008, related to Social Participation.

The cradle of French civilization in North America since the 17th century, and whose fortified colonial city is recognized as an UNESCO World Heritage Site, Québec City is proudly preparing to celebrate its 400th anniversary in 2008. Therefore, Québec City will be not only hosting the quadrennial RI World Congress, but also celebrating its quadricentennial anniversary! Perfect timing! At that auspicious time, Québec City also will be our venue for the 14th annual NACC Conference on the ICF -- certainly another important international event!

These facts, however, also prompt and underscore this good advice, in any language:

You should make your reservations early!

Vous devriez faire vos réservations tôt !

Regarding lodging, because the ICF Conference will be conducted in a conference center rather than a hotel, this year there will not be one particular hotel with a negotiated or preferred lodging rate for conferees. **You can select your own lodging.** Luckily, Québec City is a popular tourist destination with a large capacity of local accommodations, even in "high season" during the summer, but please, book early! *Vous devriez faire vos réservations tôt !*

The RI World Congress website presents a short roster of nearby hotels, including estimated lodging prices, for your review and use in selecting a hotel. But this roster neither suggests endorsement by RI, nor provides any information about street location or disabled accessibility, therefore we provide the following RI web link "to get you started" in your selection process: <http://www.riquebec2008.org/> and click on "Accommodation." Also, below is the web link to the Québec City Tourism's "Accommodation" website: <http://www.quebecregion.com/e/hotels.asp>

The venue will be the Québec City Convention Centre. The Centre's street address is; 1000, boulevard René Lévesque Est, Québec City, QC, Canada, G1R 2B5.

The Convention Centre also provides its own "Accommodations" website link, at: http://www.convention.qc.ca/tiki-index.php?page=attendees_accomodations . On that Internet page, the Convention Centre has indicated that "16 superior quality hotels are within walking distance from the Centre, two of which are linked to the Centre by underground passageways, offering a total capacity of (nearly) 3,500 rooms and suites." Regarding accessibility in hotels and the conference facility, the Convention Centre website asserts all its facilities are accessible, but NACC will remain vigilant in ensuring ICF conferees can be fully accommodated on-site.

Regarding the registration procedures, the Rehabilitation International World Congress Committee will be handling the conference registrations for **ALL** the NACC ICF Conference

events *and* the RI World Congress events. The important date to remember will be May 1, 2008, which will be the "early-bird registration rate" cut-off date, although you can register at any time (at a higher registration rate) until the RI World Congress, and even on-site.

To register, you can go online and use this RI web page:
<http://www.riquebec2008.org/> and click on "Registration" and "Rates" for the pertinent information on subsequent web pages.

Regarding the prices, registration for the NACC ICF Conference proper will be more expensive than in previous years, but your fee will purchase quite a lot of conference value.

Specifically, there will be a *Daily Registration Rate* (\$300.00 CDN per day, about \$295.00 USD). This is the RI World Congress daily rate, and it will remain the same until the Congress begins; there is no "early-bird rate" or cut-off date for the Daily Registration Rate.

For persons who want to attend only the two NACC ICF Conference days (Tuesday and Wednesday, August 26 and 27), you should purchase two days' worth of the RI World Congress' Daily Registration, for a total of \$600.00 CDN. On any Congress day for which a registrant had purchased the Daily Registration, he or she will also be entitled to attend *any and all* of the corresponding events in either the RI World Congress or the NACC ICF Conference.

Pertinently, though, for nearly the same price, you can purchase the full registration for the entire RI World Congress, covering August 25 to 28, under the "early-bird rate" until May 1, 2008, for only \$650.00 CDN *total!* (After May 1, the rate increases to \$750.00 CDN, and to \$850.00 CDN for on-site registration, although the Daily Registration Rate remains at \$300.00 CDN throughout the year.) Therefore, you have a strong incentive to attend the full RI World Congress, on dates either preceding or following our NACC ICF Conference. Perhaps just as valuably, registrants primarily interested in the RI World Congress will be able to come over to the NACC ICF Conference on August 26 and 27, to learn and share as our partners in the disability sciences. This will be a unique opportunity for NACC ICF Conference registrants and RI World Congress participants to achieve "critical mass" in essentially one venue. Join us!

If you are a dues-paying member of RI, you can enjoy a discounted registration rate for the full World Congress: \$490.00 CDN prior to May 1 (\$590.00 subsequently, \$690.00 on-site).

Please note that, although Rehabilitation International will accept credit card payment for the registration fee, they will only accept *Visa* and *MasterCard* or *EuroCard*; no other credit cards will be accepted for payment. Bank transfers are acceptable but will induce extra fees.

Please also note that RI has established a special Student Rate for persons in training, and it is reduced from the regular registration rate. Students can attend the full World Congress at the rate of \$250.00 CDN, which remains stable (i.e., there is no "early-bird" cut-off date). Moreover, RI offers a special rate for accompanying Personal Care Attendants (\$275.00 CDN).

Our NACC colleagues at the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) will be handling all the ICF Abstracts and proposals for presentations and posters. To submit an

Abstract or other proposal before **FEBRUARY 29, 2008**, please follow the instructions on this website:

<http://www.icfconference.com> which leads to:
<http://www.cihiconferences.ca/icfconference/>

NACC looks forward to welcoming you to the 14th Annual ICF Conference, in conjunction with our RI partners, for this unusual, valuable conference event! We encourage your participation, and please consider submitting an Abstract or other conference proposal before the deadline of **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2008!**

2) 2006 CANADIAN "PARTICIPATION AND ACTIVITY LIMITATION SURVEY" (PALS) TABLES AND ANALYTIC REPORTS HAVE BEEN RELEASED; THE PALS QUESTIONNAIRE ADHERES TO THE ICF CONCEPTUAL MODEL.

NACC would like to acknowledge the new, substantial contribution to disability statistics provided by our colleagues at Statistics Canada, who recently released the initial set of analytical reports and tables related to the Canadian 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS, *Enquête sur la participation et les limitations d'activités, EPLA*).

Data from the earlier iterations of this survey, the 1991 Health Activity Limitations Survey and the 2001 PALS, provided very important benchmarks for understanding the prevalence of disability in Canada and for developing appropriate disability resource planning throughout the nation. The new data, collected nationwide during the fall of 2006 and winter of 2007, can be anticipated to be equally valuable, both within Canada and internationally.

Pertinently, Statistics Canada has provided this helpful definition:

“For the purpose of PALS, persons with disabilities are those who reported difficulties with daily living activities, or who indicated that a physical or mental condition or a health problem reduced the kind or amount of activities that they could do.”

[Source: a helpful, concise summary of the main findings in 2006 PALS, at: <http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/071203/d071203a.htm>]

Additionally, “PALS focuses on the relationship between functional status, daily living activities and social participation by collecting data on the nature and severity of the activity limitations, and on the needs for assistive technology, social support and accommodation in all spheres of life” (Technical and Methodological Report, 2007, pg. 7).

Supporting their rationale for this definition of a case of disability within PALS, StatCan helpfully explained “PALS uses the World Health Organization’s (WHO) framework of

disability provided by the International Classification of Functioning (ICF). This framework defines disability as the relationship between body structures and functions, daily activities and social participation, while recognizing the role of environmental factors. The ICF is a multi-dimensional classification, encompassing both a medical and a social model of disability. The ICF is intended to have a number of applications as a statistical tool, a research tool, a clinical tool, a social policy tool, and as an educational tool” (*ibid.*, pg. 8).

For members of the North American ICF Community, results from the 2006 PALS will represent an important milestone in direct application of the ICF conceptual model to population-based surveying activities. As a sampler, within StatCan’s “Analytical Report,” with reference to a set of quite readable tables and bar charts in the Report, StatCan provided a useful “Profile of Disability Among Adults.” In that Profile, they reported the following summary highlights (and others), each exhibiting a characteristic easily identified within the ICF framework:

- “Disabilities related to pain, mobility and agility are the most common” [Table 9 and Text Box 5];
- “Over a million adult Canadians have a hearing disability” [Chart 12];
- “Nearly a half of a million Canadians report less visible disabilities,” referring to the ascertainment of cases of disability associated with psychological challenges, memory or learning difficulties, and the effects of developmental disabilities;
- “Most adults with disabilities have multiple disabilities” [Table 10];
- “The most common form of disability among working-age adults are activity limitations related to pain,” and pertinently, “Pain and discomfort-related activity limitations can be constant or cyclical”; and
- “1 in 3 Canadians aged 65 and over experience mobility limitations” [Table 13].

Instead of providing a summary of the overall findings from the 2006 PALS here, NACC encourages readers of this ICF Newsletter to visit the websites below for the full documentation and summary reports, which describe the sampling frame and other technical characteristics of the PALS. Pertinently, between 2001 and 2006, the PALS sampling frame broadened, involving “a change in coverage resulting from the inclusion of a number of aboriginal communities, the addition of the three territories, and the modification to the definition of collective dwellings” (<http://www.statcan.ca/bsolc/english/bsolc?catno=89-628-XIE2007001#formatdisp>).

Summary Press Release, dated December 3, 2007:

<http://www.statcan.ca/Daily/English/071203/d071203a.htm>

“Technical and Methodological Report” (download 49 pages in .PDF format):

<http://www.statcan.ca/cgi-bin/downpub/listpub.cgi?catno=89-628-XIE2007001>

“Analytical Report” (download 38 pages):

<http://www.statcan.ca/cgi-bin/downpub/listpub.cgi?catno=89-628-XIE2007002>

“Tables” (download 122 pages):

<http://www.statcan.ca/cgi-bin/downpub/listpub.cgi?catno=89-628-XIE2007003>

As with any national survey, there were many contributors to the development and successful implementation of the 2006 PALS, too numerous to mention here. But NACC would like to acknowledge the specific contributions of Valérie Bizier, Andrew MacKenzie, and Susan Stobert from StatCan, not only for their work on PALS but also for their consistent reporting on both the 2001 and 2006 PALS during recent NACC ICF Conferences. These professionals have enabled all participants in our Collaborating Center to stay informed about the development of 2006 PALS, particularly regarding its adherence to the ICF framework. In due course, we understand that StatCan will release public-use versions of the 2006 PALS data files, as well as additional analytic reports. On behalf of all users of these data, NACC expresses thanks to StatCan for making these robust, user-friendly documents publicly available so soon, too.

3) CALL FOR ICF REVIEWERS: THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INVITES YOUR ON-LINE REVIEW OF THE “BODY FUNCTIONS” PORTION OF THE REVISED “CLINICAL MANUAL.” PLEASE PARTICIPATE! VEUILLEZ PARTICIPER !

NACC is pleased to accentuate the announcement that the American Psychological Association (APA) invites health professionals, particularly those knowledgeable about the ICF, to review updated chapters in the APA’s forthcoming book entitled *Procedural Manual and Guide for a Standardized Application of the ICF: A Manual for Health Professionals*. The *Manual*, initially released as a monograph in 2003, primarily will become an electronic product.

APA has released one component, and in the near future will release additional components of the revised *Manual*, representing the domain structure of the ICF, for online review by persons familiar with the ICF. The Body Functions domain is the first available for full review online. One reviews text about how to apply ICF codes in clinical settings, rather than the ICF codes themselves; this APA project does *not* entail any revisions to the ICF itself.

Please participate! Your expertise and input are solicited, and contributing reviewers will have the opportunity to be recognized within the final published versions. This is an enormously important activity for development of clinical applications of the ICF. Please participate!

Dr. Lynn Bufka, APA Assistant Executive Director for Practice Research and Policy, and Omar Rehman, Project Manager for the *Manual* review, encourage potential reviewers to visit this APA project website <http://icf.apa.org> to register and participate. “Reviewers must register to participate in the evaluation process but once registered, they can enter and exit the website at their convenience and can read or comment on any or all of the available content.”

Dr. Geoffrey Reed joined Bufka and Rehman as authors of a helpful 4-page paper outlining the *Manual* review, presented during the 2007 Annual Meeting of the WHO Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC) Network. The paper is available at this website link: http://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D015.pdf

Within that paper, the authors explained “The APA, along with its collaborators, has developed a database of individuals with expressed interest in the ICF and its clinical applications. Individuals are regularly added to this database as their interest in the ICF becomes known. . . . While the majority of the individuals are from the U.S., individuals from around the world are invited to participate in the evaluation process. We recognize that the content of the *Manual* is limited by the worldview of the contributors, but efforts have been made to provide universal examples and information that [are] useful in a wide variety of health care applications. It is hoped that this *Manual* will be adapted for use in other health care systems, but it is understood that much of the content has been developed by experts most familiar with North American health care. Reviewers who can provide commentary regarding the universality of concepts and information are desired” (pg. 3).

The authors also explained that this NACC ICF Newsletter, and other resources provided by the WHO-FIC Network, are parts of their overall recruitment strategy for obtaining a full complement of *Manual* reviewers. They wrote “In order for the review process to be successful, a cross-section of individuals with appropriate content knowledge needs to comment on the *Manual* content. Additional strategies to recruit reviewers include re-contacting all those from the initial wave [summer, 2007], utilizing contacts within NACC and WHO-FIC, engaging with other professional associations, and encouraging registrants to invite colleagues to participate (‘tell a friend’ strategy). . . . We will also publicly recognize all reviewers on the website and in future *Manual* products, unless individuals request not to be recognized” (pg. 3).

“The review process has been designed to provide easy electronic access to all of the *Manual* content. In addition to soliciting feedback on the content itself, we are also soliciting feedback on the electronic format. We anticipate that future uses of the *Manual* content will not only be in print format but also in electronic format. We have discussed various possibilities for sharing the *Manual* content with other ICF products in order to provide a suite of products to facilitate use of the ICF in clinical applications” (pg.3).

Although the initial audience for this paper had been representatives from the WHO-FIC Collaborating Centers, the APA’s invitation issued in the paper is broad enough to include all readers of this NACC ICF Newsletter: “All participants at the 2007 WHO-FIC meeting are invited to participate in the ICF *Manual* review process and are encouraged to share the invitation with colleagues” (pg. 4). NACC is honored to share this important invitation!

The authors provided a helpful reference to a peer-reviewed paper they had previously published, regarding clinical applications of the ICF, as potential background information for reviewers seeking more information about direct applications of the *Manual* in practice settings:

Reed GM, Lux JB, Bufka LF, Trask C, Peterson DB, Stark S, Threats TT, Jacobson JA, Hawley JW. Operationalizing the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) in clinical settings. *Rehabilitation Psychology* 2005; 50(2):122-131.

Remember to register as a reviewer at this website: <http://icf.apa.org> and
you can correspond with Dr. Bufka at this E-Mail address: LBufka@apa.org .

4) BRIEF REPORT: THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF PHYSICAL THERAPY 15TH WORLD CONGRESS CONVENED IN VANCOUVER IN JUNE, 2007, AND FEATURED MANY ICF PRESENTATIONS --- ABSTRACTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR YOUR REVIEW.

The NACC would like to recognize the World Confederation of Physical Therapy (WCPT), a non-profit consortium of physical therapy organizations which has engaged in formal relationship with the World Health Organization since 1952, for its ongoing support of the ICF. Consistently, the WCPT leadership and membership have been among the world's leaders in interpreting the ICF conceptual framework, and applying the ICF in their daily clinical practice. In cooperation with Elsevier, the WCPT publishes the clinical practice journal *Physiotherapy*.

In June, 2007, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, at its 15th International Congress (also a quadrennial event), members of the WCPT and other researchers contributed even more impetus to the broader application of the ICF, by delivering nearly three dozen presentations involving the nexus between the ICF and PT practice. Bravo!

The participants in our NACC who are physical therapists or members of the constituent organizations within the WCPT are too numerous to name, but in particular we would like to acknowledge the reporting about this 15th WCPT International Congress from our Canadian colleague Janice Miller, a longtime contributor to our Collaborating Center's efforts on revising the ICIDH and implementing the ICF, who participated in the Vancouver meeting.

We also want to acknowledge the important coordinating efforts on ICF activities within the WCPT contributed by our Australian colleague Catherine Sykes, who joined Janice in also reporting about these ICF presentations during the June, 2007 meeting in Vancouver. Catherine and others have contributed many useful documents about the ICF that are posted on the WCPT website for public viewing around the world, the links to which are presented below.

To gain an idea quickly about the nature of some of the ICF presentations delivered at the WCPT International Congress, below we present a list of selected abstracts representing both oral (platform) and poster presentations delivered in Vancouver. Expressing our thanks to the WCPT for making so much of their conference information publicly available, we have also incorporated the website links to these particular abstracts, for your further reading or contacting the authors. This non-exhaustive set features many North American authors, but many international collaborators also contributed to these presentations. Our goal here is to demonstrate the breadth of ICF applications in contemporary PT theory, practice, research, academic instruction, and professional training, for which these presentations provide abundant evidence even in abstracted form. Interested readers can expand their review to even more abstracts, by keyword-searching at this WCPT website link:

<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/WCPT2007.html> .

In cooperation with the publishing house Elsevier, the WCPT publishes the clinical practice journal *Physiotherapy*. Therefore, these abstracts have also been published in a supplement of *Physiotherapy* that is available in .PDF format for review on the Internet, regardless of your subscription or membership status. The citation is: *Physiotherapy* 2007 (June 2): 93(Supplement 1):S1-S802, and it is available at the following journal website: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00319406> .

Selected Oral Presentations at the Vancouver International Congress

- “Assessment of Functioning in the Acute Hospital: Operationalization and Reliability Testing of ICF Categories Relevant for Physical Therapists’ Interventions”
Thomas Gloor-Juzi, Eva Grill, E. Omega-Huber, Gerold Stucki
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/1192.htm>
- “Content Validity of the First Version of Intervention Categories for Physical Therapists Based on the ICF: Internal Medicine Area”
Elisabeth Bürge, Alarcos Cieza, Lara Allet, Monika E Finger, et al.
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/1140.htm>
- “Content Validity of the First Version of Intervention Categories for Physical Therapists Based on the ICF: Musculoskeletal Domain”
Lara Allet, Alarcos Cieza, Elisabeth Bürge, Monika Finger, et al.
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/928.htm>
- “Disability Prevalence Among a Cohort of Inpatients Admitted to Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, South Africa”
Hellen Myezwa, Aimee Stewart, Paul Nesara
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/1787.htm>
- “Environmental Barriers Experienced by Urban and Rural Disabled People in South Africa”
Soraya Maart, Arne Eide, Jennifer Jelsma, Mitch Loeb, et al.
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/718.htm>
- “How Do Changes in Impairment, Activity and Participation Relate to Each Other in a Group of Children with Cerebral Palsy?”
Virginia Wright, Peter Rosenbaum, Charlie Goldsmith, Darcy Fehlings, et al.
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/992.htm>
- “Identification of Intervention Categories for Physiotherapy on the ICF”
E Omega Huber, Jürg Stoll, Monika Finger, Gerold Stucki, et al.
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/2491.htm>

- “Impairment, Activity, Participation: Effective Goal-Setting --- Children with Cerebral Palsy and Lower Limb Botulinum Toxin (Type A) Injections”
Linda Kealey, Antoinette Megens, Anna McCormick, Heidi Sveistrup
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/1231.htm>
- “The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF): Can It Provide High-Level Descriptions of Scottish Physiotherapy Cases?”
Liz Mitchell
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/668.htm>
- “Mapping the Stroke Impact Scale to the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health: Using a Standardized Protocol”
Carolina Moriello, Nancy Mayo, Paul Stolee, Kerry Byrne, et al.
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/3179.htm>
- “Patient Concerns in the First Six Weeks Following Primary Total Knee Arthroplasty”
Ravi Rastogi, Aileen Davis, Bert Chesworth
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/1545.htm>
- “Research in Physiotherapy in Sweden and Australia Today: A Comparison Regarding Research Area, Study Design, and ICF Components”
Katarina Steding, Christina Gummesson
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/2908.htm>
- “Using the International Classification of Functioning to Develop a Database for Children Receiving PT or OT Services in Manitoba”
Sandy Loewen, Marie Paterson, Barb Borton, Susan Hales, et al.
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/1724.htm>

Selected Poster Presentations at the Vancouver International Congress

- “Applications of the ICF Scheme in the Presentation of Research Data and Empowerment of Patients”
Dorine van Ravensberg, Yvonne Heerkens
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/11-24.htm>
- “Conceptual Comparison Between interRAI PAC [Post-Acute Care] and ICF”
Katherine Berg, Junell D'Souza, Linda Resnick
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/12-04.htm>
- “The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) for the Assessment of Individuals and Decision-Making: The Functioning Assessment Model”

Anabela Martins

<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/12-01.htm>

- “Rehabilitating Farmers and Ranchers with Disabilities”
Millee Jorge
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/25-14.htm>
- “System-Oriented Pathways in Physical Therapy in the Acute Hospital Based on the ICF: Musculoskeletal System”
E. Omega-Huber, Eva Grill, Thomas Gloor-Juzi, Gerold Stucki
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/12-05.htm>
- “Work-Related External and Personal Factors and the ICF”
Yvonne Heerkens, Dorine van Ravensberg, Josephine Engels, Rob Oostendorp
<http://www.wcpt.org/abstracts2007/Abstracts/12-02.htm>

NACC would like to congratulate and encourage each of these authors for their contributions to the intersection of physical therapy and the ICF. Thanks also to Janice Miller and Catherine Sykes for their multiple contributions to the Confederation and NACC, as well.

NACC would also like to encourage readers of this ICF Newsletter to become familiar with the helpful documents about the ICF posted on the WCPT website. Our continuing thanks are expressed to Catherine for shepherding these documents into a cogent set, which in themselves now constitute a “short course” for learning about the ICF, whether or not one is directly involved in PT practice. For example, these include:

WCPT ICF Programmes:

<http://www.wcpt.org/programmes/icf/index.php>

WCPT Network for ICF

<http://www.wcpt.org/programmes/icf/network.php>

WCPT ICF Resources Page

<http://www.wcpt.org/programmes/icf/resources.php> , which includes links to the ICF “Keynote Papers” prepared by Catherine, a list of examples of relevant ICF applications in PT, the “Register of ICF Experts” in the PT field, the ICF Discussion Forum, and a variety of supportive links to resources within the WHO Family of International Classifications Network and the ICF Illustration Library.

- 5) **SUPPORTING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN IMPORTANT NEW JOURNAL: *DISABILITY AND HEALTH JOURNAL*, THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY.**

An important organization in the U.S., the American Association on Health and Disability (AAHD), has announced the introduction of its new scholarly journal, entitled *Disability and Health Journal*. NACC would like to support the launch of this international journal by encouraging members of the North American ICF Community to consider authoring and submitting ICF-oriented manuscripts to the *Disability and Health Journal*. The first quarterly issue is scheduled for a “Winter, 2008” publication date. The AAHD has joined with the publishing house Elsevier to make this a truly international journal whose time has come.

Although the new journal is specifically about neither the ICF nor disability classification *per se*, the characteristics of the articles that the Editors of this multi-disciplinary journal have solicited represent a good template for ICF-oriented topics and manuscripts.

The Editors themselves have been strong, long-time contributors to the disability epidemiology literature: Professor Suzanne McDermott from the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine in Columbia, SC, and Professor Margaret Turk from the Departments of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and Pediatrics at the SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY, have been appointed Editors of the new journal by the AAHD Board of Directors. Bravo!

Similarly, the newly-appointed 27-member Editorial Board includes some of the most prolific contributors to the published literature in disability epidemiology, disability statistics, and reviews of the ICF. You can review the Editorial Board roster on this Elsevier web page: http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaleditorialboard.cws_home/713446/editorialboard

Specifically, the Editors have described *Disability and Health Journal* as “a peer reviewed scholarly, scientific and multi-disciplinary journal for reporting original contributions that advance knowledge in disability and health. Such contributions may include:

- Reports of empirical research on the characteristics of persons with disabilities, environments, health outcomes and determinants of health;
- Systematic reviews and tightly conceived theoretical interpretations of research literatures;
- Evaluate research on new interventions, technologies and programs.”

The Editors helpfully explained that the “*Disability and Health Journal* intends to advance the conceptual framework of the *International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health* to describe health and health related states, but will not limit the publications to this framework. The *Disability and Health Journal* will provide a forum for peer reviewed articles that identify, evaluate, and promote existing and emerging models of health care delivery or promotion, which contributes to the improvement of health care across the lifespan.”

Moreover, they wrote “The focus of the *Disability and Health Journal* will be public health, health promotion, health education, wellness and prevention, and disability research. The *Journal* will incorporate population and clinic-based studies. The *Journal* would incorporate

articles related to descriptions and analysis of disability domains and impairment groups, analysis and modeling of relationship between individual and environmental factors resulting in health and health related states, and conceptual articles about disabilities and health.”

Who would read or subscribe to such a journal? The Editors wrote that their intended audiences would include “disability researchers, public health professionals, public health officials, academic professionals, disability professionals, health promotion specialists, epidemiologists, educators, physicians, health policy experts, health administrators, nurses, biostatisticians, rehabilitation counselors, social scientists, and psychologists.” These audiences would certainly also include many professionals interested in applications of the ICF.

[Source: <http://aahd.webchoices.us/page.php?pname=health/initiatives/journal>]

NACC would like to congratulate the AAHD, its Board of Directors, and the new members of the Editorial Board, along with Elsevier, for all their hard work in developing, marketing, and now publishing the *Disability and Health Journal*. Special recognition is also due to many members of the American Public Health Association’s DisAbility Forum, who for many years spearheaded and promoted efforts to develop this kind of scientific journal, toward the enhancement of disability epidemiology as a scientific field and toward improving social and physical environments for disabled persons everywhere.

For more information about the AAHD and its other programs, visit their website at: <http://aahd.webchoices.us/page.php?pname=home>

6) “ICF-CY: A COMMON LANGUAGE FOR THE HEALTH OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH” --- THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION ROLLOUT FOR THE ICF-CY WAS CONDUCTED IN VENICE, OCTOBER 25-26, 2007.

The ICF-CY is now officially a member of the WHO Family of International Classifications! The WHO, the WHO-FIC Italian Collaborating Center, and the Department of Health and Social Services for the Veneto Region in Italy jointly conducted the official rollout for the Children and Youth Version of the ICF on October 25 and 26, 2007, in Venice. More than 200 registrants from around the world participated in this scientific conference and examination of the new classification tool. NACC was represented by participants from the Canadian Institute for Health Information, the CDC National Center on Health Statistics and the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, the Department of Education’s National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, and professors from various universities in North America, including Professor Rune Simeonsson from University of North Carolina, who had served as a Co-Chairman of the ICF-CY Task Force.

You can review a brief WHO Press Release about the Venice Conference at this website: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2007/pr59/en/index.html>

Also, the Veneto Region has posted a short description of both the ICF-CY and the Venice Conference, in English, on this website:

http://www.venetosociale.it/icf-cy/index.php?pg=cms&ext=p&cms_codsec=40&cms_codcms=7219&cms_page=1

Although the slide presentations from the Venice Conference will not be available for review on the Internet, the following are links to two very helpful, explanatory PowerPoint presentations about the ICF-CY that supported subsequent presentations at the Venice Conference. The first was provided by our colleagues at the Dutch Collaborating Center, Doctors Marijke de Kleijn and Huib Ten Napel, who contributed substantially to the ICF-CY Task Force during nearly a decade's work, and the second was provided by Professor Simeonsson; he delivered this particular presentation at the July 10-11, 2007 American conference entitled "New Federal Applications of the ICF."

http://www.dutch-acd.nl/pdf/Handout_ICF-CY.pdf

http://www.icdr.us/ICF07/presentations/Rune_Simeonsson.ppt

As a reminder, all the new codes within the ICF-CY are now fully incorporated into the online ICF Hypertext Browser, provided on the WHO's website:

<http://www.who.int/classifications/icf/site/onlinebrowser/icf.cfm?undefined&version=7>

On that page, use the pull-down menu at the top center of the page to select "ICF – Children" as though it were a choice for any of the spoken languages also within that pull-down menu. The web page will then reveal the text "version: ICF – Children" at the top center.

The WHO websites for purchasing bound (paperback) copies of the ICF-CY directly from WHO Publications are as follows:

<http://www.who.int/bookorders/MDIbookPDF/Book/11500716.pdf> and

<http://www.who.int/bookorders/anglais/detart1.jsp?sesslan=1&codlan=1&codcol=15&codcch=716>

NACC would like to acknowledge the professionalism of our WHO-FIC colleagues in the Italian Collaborating Center who contributed to the success of this important international conference. Especially, we want to thank Drs. Matilde Leonardi, Andrea Martinuzzi, and Carlo Francescutti for their gracious hospitality during the Venice Conference. Bravo!

7) "ICF SPOTLIGHT" ON SUSAN STARK, PH.D., OTR/L, FAOTA

Occasionally in the NACC ICF Newsletter, we turn the "ICF Spotlight" onto a North American scientist or other professional, in recognition of their contributions to the development or implementation of the ICF in the U.S. or Canada.

In this issue of the Newsletter, we are proud to feature in that Spotlight our colleague Susan L. Stark, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, from St. Louis, Missouri.

“Susie” currently serves as Assistant Professor of Neurology and Occupational Therapy at the Washington University School of Medicine, in St. Louis, a joint appointment since 2005.

Professor Stark is fundamentally familiar with the ICF. Susie is also a long-time proponent for regularly using the ICF in clinical OT settings. She served as an ICIDH-2 Beta Field Test evaluator, and a liaison to WHO from the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) during the ICIDH revision process. Susie has lectured about the ICF as a short-course instructor, through resources provided by NACC and by the Center for International Rehabilitation Research Information and Exchange at our annual ICF Conferences. Susie informed us that she now conventionally incorporates the ICF into her classroom and clinical instruction sets for her OT students, in fact serving as a pacesetter for infusing the ICF into regular OT curricula. Susie is a Registered and Licensed Occupational Therapist, and recently earned appointment as a Fellow of the AOTA. She is also a member of the Gerontological Society of America, and the Environmental Design Research Association. Moreover, as a clinician and investigator, Susie utilizes the ICF as the rubric for her independent and collaborative research on quantifying the effects of environmental barriers and home modifications among elderly and disabled persons.

Recently Susie collaborated with Drs. Geoff Reed and Lynn Bufka in a series of evaluations among various methods for teaching clinicians about and how to use the ICF. During this decade, along with Reed and Bufka, Professor Stark has been a substantial contributor to the American Psychological Association’s *Procedural Manual and Guide for a Standardized Application of the ICF: A Manual for Health Professionals*. These authors presented a summary of research regarding ICF teaching methods at the 2007 NACC ICF Conference in Niagara Falls, NY. These authors have also submitted a manuscript on this topic for publication in *Disability and Rehabilitation*; a preliminary version of the paper was presented at the 2007 WHO-FIC Annual Meeting, which can be reviewed at the following website link: https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D069.pdf

Professor Stark’s educational background exhibits a path toward the type of research she and her colleagues conduct today: evaluating the effects of environmental barriers. She earned her Bachelor’s degree in Exercise and Health Science at Alma College in Michigan, and in 1989, the Master of Science degree in Occupational Therapy at Washington University in St. Louis. Susie’s early career included hospital-based and community OT practice with the Veterans Administration and several schools in the St. Louis area, followed by a return to Washington University as an Instructor. Susie earned the Ph.D. degree in Environmental and Behavioral Science in 1998 at the University of Missouri at Columbia.

Today Professor Stark’s research emphasizes identifying and quantifying the influence of environmental barriers on social participation among persons with disabilities. Another aspect of that research involves measuring the effects of environmental or home modification interventions, both at the individual and community levels. With colleagues in the Program in Occupational Therapy, including Drs. David Gray and Holly Hollingsworth and Ms. Kerri Morgan, Professor Stark has been an investigator in the CDC-funded, ICF-oriented studies entitled “Development of a Community Health Environmental Checklist” and “Mobility,

Disability, Participation and the Environment.” The latter study generated a validated instrument that captures self-reported difficulties in participation or the effects of environmental barriers that restrict participation, the “Participation Survey/Mobility” (PARTS/M), and the “Facilities and Barriers Survey for Mobility-Limited Individuals” (FABS/M). Bravo!

As if that isn't enough to keep any ICF researcher busy, Susie is the new mother of daughter Sophie, who joined a household that also includes puppy Harry and husband Paul. In those fleeting moments of spare time, Susie enjoys yoga, jogging, and photography.

You can review Professor Stark's Washington University faculty web page at this link: <http://aladdin.wustl.edu/ot/otweb.nsf/F/2C7D243B26162051862571E1007387AB?OpenDocument>

Below this entry, we've provided a short bibliography of some of Professor Stark's recent contributions to the ICF literature. We also encourage readers to correspond with Susie at the following Washington University E-Mail address: starksu@msnotes.wustl.edu

Stark SL. Creating disability in the home: The role of environmental barriers. *Disability and Society* 2001; 16:37-49.

Stark SL. Removing environmental barriers in the homes of older adults with disabilities improves occupational performance. *Occupational Therapy Journal of Research* 2004; 24:32-39.

Reed GM, Lux JB, Bufka LF, Trask C, Peterson DB, Stark SL, Threats TT, Jacobson JA, Hawley JW. Operationalizing the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) in clinical settings. *Rehabilitation Psychology* 2005; 50(2):122-131.

Stark SL, Edwards DF, Hollingsworth HH, Gray DB. Validation of the Reintegration to Normal Living Index in a population of community-dwelling people with mobility limitations. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation* 2005 (February), 86(2):344-345.

Gray DB, Hollingsworth HH, Stark SL, Morgan KA. Participation survey/mobility: Psychometric properties of a measure of participation for people with mobility impairments and limitations. *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation* 2006 (February); 87(2):189-197.

Stark SL, Hollingsworth HH, Morgan KA, Gray DB. Development of a measure of receptivity of the physical environment. *Disability and Rehabilitation* 2007 (January); 29(2):123-137.

Gray DB, Hollingsworth HH, Stark SL, Morgan KA. A subjective measure of environmental facilitators and barriers to participation for people with mobility limitations. Article in Press, Corrected Proof, accepted October 12, 2007, available online October 12, 2007, accessed January 15, 2008, *Disability and Rehabilitation* 2007 (October 12); Epub ahead of print; DOI: 10.1080/09638280701625377.

8) **BRIEFLY NOTED: ICF NEWS OF INTEREST**

- **The *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy* devoted a full Supplement to the ICF in July, 2007, featuring 7 articles.**

The *CJOT*, the official journal of the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists, devoted a full Supplement to the ICF in July, 2007. Although the online versions of the articles are available only to CAOT members, below we have presented the web link for the Supplement, along with the citations for each article, in case readers of this Newsletter would like to obtain them subsequently.

<http://www.caot.ca/default.asp?pageid=2135>

Stewart D. Editorial for the Special Edition on the ICF. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy* 2007; 74(Spec):217-220.

Farrell J, Anderson S, Hewitt K, Livingston MH, Stewart D. A survey of occupational therapists in Canada about their knowledge and use of the ICF. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy* 2007; 74(Spec):221-232.

Levasseur M, Desrosiers J, St-Cyr TD. Comparing the Disability Creation Process and the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health models. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy* 2007; 74(Spec):233-242.

Lysack C, Komanecky M, Kabel A, Cross K, Neufeld S. Environmental factors and their role in community integration after spinal cord injury. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy* 2007; 74(Spec):243-254.

Shaw L, Leyshon R, Liu M. Validating the potential of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health to identify barriers to facilitators of consumer participation. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy* 2007; 74(Spec):255-266.

Kirchberger I, Stamm T, Cieza A, Stucki G. Does the Comprehensive ICF Core Set for Rheumatoid Arthritis capture occupational therapy practice? A content validity study. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy* 2007; 74(Spec):267-280.

Conti-Becker A, Doralp S, Fayed N, Kean C, *et al.* A comparison of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health to the Disability Tax Credit. *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy* 2007; 74(Spec):281-287.

- **"World Report on Disability and Rehabilitation": This joint WHO-World Bank Report, scheduled for publication in 2009, will feature input from the ICF research community.**

NACC would like to encourage all readers of this ICF Newsletter to be aware of the forthcoming publication entitled World Report on Disability, to be published jointly by WHO and the World Bank, probably in 2009.

Just by the title, you can tell that this will be a seminal, much-anticipated report. Although the Internet documents and recent U.S. presentations about the World Report have not explicitly mentioned that the Report would utilize the ICF in its methodology or drafting, several members of the ICF research community have been actively involved with or in supportive roles for the Report. Two members of the WHO-FIC Network's Functioning and Disability Reference Group are members of the World Report's Editorial Committee: Ms. Ros Madden and Dr. Qui Zhuoying, from the Australian and Chinese Collaborating Centers, respectively, who are very knowledgeable about current research involving the ICF around the world. Moreover, Professor Katherine Seelman from the University of Pittsburgh School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, and a former director of the U.S. National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, is a North American representative on the Editorial Committee.

For your reference, the following website links will enable Newsletter readers to become quickly familiar with the foundations for the World Report on Disability.

WHO "Concept Note" about the World Report (2 pages):

http://www.who.int/disabilities/publications/dar_world_report_concept_note.pdf

World Bank introductory PowerPoint presentation, originally delivered by Ms. Alana Officer from the WHO Disability and Rehabilitation Team, serving as the coordinator for the World Report (15 slide images in .PDF format):

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DISABILITY/Resources/News---Events/BBLs/20070411WHOpresen.pdf>

World Bank "Update: Working Towards Inclusion," Issue # 1, April 2007:

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DISABILITY/Resources/News---Events/BBLs/20070411WHOissue1.pdf>

WHO "Newsletter on Disability and Rehabilitation," Issue # 2, August, 2007

http://www.who.int/disabilities/publications/newsletter/2nd_dar_newsletter_final.pdf

World Bank "Guidelines for Authors" document, exhibiting a general outline:

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DISABILITY/Resources/News---Events/BBLs/AuthorsGuidefinal.pdf>

NACC would like to thank Dr. Zhuoying for providing updated information about the status of World Report --- and for encouraging all members of the North American ICF Community to be enthused about this forthcoming report.

- **The "DisAbility Forum" within the American Public Health Association (APHA) is now officially the "Disability Section." It sponsored 4 papers on the ICF during the recent 2007 APHA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.**

NACC congratulates all the leaders and members within the (formerly-named) APHA "DisAbility Forum Special Interest Group" for their contributions to establishing the Forum as a full-fledged Section in the Association, elevating it from Special Interest Group status. This is an important development because it enables APHA members concerned about disability and Public Health to have a seat on the APHA Governing Council, representing the new Disability Section.

The Forum's leaders and members have been staunch supporters for broader implementation of the ICF in North America. Presentations of cutting-edge research about the ICIDH and the ICF have typified the Forum's Scientific Sessions at APHA meetings since the 1980s. The DisAbility Forum has also successfully advocated for enhancing the overall degree of accessibility within APHA meetings and publications, even though more work needs to be done.

Specific commendations are due to Professors Suzanne McDermott, Kristine Mulhorn, Gloria Krahn, Charles Drum and David Gray, and Ms. Roberta Carlin, who served in leadership roles during 2006-2007, the period in which it appeared the Forum could finally attain Section status by increasing the number of APHA members who declared the Forum to be their own primary section for Association activities. Many other professionals and authors have contributed to this development during the two decades of the DisAbility Forum's existence, and our commendations go out to those Forum members, too numerous to name exhaustively here. But NACC would like to recognize a set of particularly strong contributors over the years: Elena Andresen, Larry Burt, John Crews, Gerry Hendershot, David Keer, Don Lollar, Susan Kinne, Corinne Kirchner, Dot Nary, Els Nieuwenhuijsen, Paul Placek, Craig Ravesloot, Jim Rimmer, Tom Seekins, Rune Simeonsson, Joe Smith, JoAnn Thierry, Meg Ann Traci, Glen White, Gale Whiteneck, and posthumously, Allan Meyers. Bravo, everyone!

During the 135th Annual Meeting of the APHA, conducted in Washington in November, 2007, the DisAbility Forum sponsored at least 4 oral paper presentations featuring the ICF or ICF-CY. The titles, authors, and website links to their APHA abstracts are provided below, for your reference:

"Using the BRFSS to validate a new measure of participation"
 Gale Whiteneck, Allen Heinemann, John Corrigan, Jennifer Bogner, C.A. Brooks,
 and Melissa Sendroy-Terrill
http://apha.confex.com/apha/135am/techprogram/paper_163493.htm

"Recent conceptual and empirical advances in participation measurement"
 Gale Whiteneck

http://apha.confex.com/apha/135am/techprogram/paper_163688.htm

“Disability and the evaluation of public health interventions”

Daniel Mont (presented by Mitch Loeb)

http://apha.confex.com/apha/135am/techprogram/paper_154499.htm

“ICF-CY-based surveillance of student functioning in Qatar schools”

Rune Simeonsson

http://apha.confex.com/apha/135am/techprogram/paper_148391.htm

The Abstract Deadline for this year's 136th Annual Meeting of the APHA is also just around the corner: February 8, 2008 will be the Abstract submission deadline for the new Disability Section. The 2008 APHA Annual Meeting will be conducted in San Diego, CA, between October 25-29, 2008, and this year's theme will be "Public Health Without Borders." You can review a roster of invited topics for this year's Disability Section Scientific Program at this web page:

<http://apha.confex.com/apha/136am/disf.htm>

- **Brief Report: The WHO-FIC Network Annual Meeting in Trieste, Italy, featured new ICF initiatives by the Functioning and Disability Reference Group, the Implementation Committee and the Education Committee**

Between October 27 and November 3, 2007, in Trieste, Italy, the WHO Family of International Classifications (WHO-FIC) Network, the consortium of national and regional Collaborating Centers like NACC that maintain and promote optimal utilization of the full suite of WHO Classifications, conducted its Annual Meeting, during which many ICF issues and projects were discussed.

Although many authors and WHO-FIC groups contributed to the robust dialogue about the ICF and its implementation, during this Annual Meeting the WHO-FIC Education Committee (EC) and the Functioning and Disability Reference Group (FDRG) conducted the lion's share of formal activities related to the ICF. For example, since its founding in 2006, the FDRG has commenced substantial activities on its eight Strategic Projects, conducted by the following Task Groups:

- 1) Principles of Use, Coding Rules, and Guidelines
- 2) ICF Updates
- 3) ICF Implications for ICD
- 4) Measurement and Statistical Use of ICF
- 5) Educational Materials
- 6) Ethics and ICF
- 7) Environmental Factors
- 8) Terminologies and ICF

You can review a summary of the FDRG's recent work at the following website:

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_C009.pdf

The EC and FDRG are collaborating on a "Joint ICF Education Project" that will generate many educational and training products, including a modular ICF Core Curriculum that is currently under development and testing. Moreover, the EC and FDRG are partners in an effort to catalog existing ICF training materials, toward a database that incorporates "meta-data" about the features of the catalogued materials, for optimal utilization around the world, using the "ICF-INFO" template developed by our colleagues at the Dutch Collaborating Center.

This year's Annual Meeting also accommodated a full-fledged ICF Plenary Session, in which papers were presented on the broad subjects of "Disability Statistics and Related Measurements," "Disability and Society," and "The ICF and Children," the latter referring to the tangible outcomes from the Venice Conference in which the ICF-CY had been formally introduced.

You can also review copies of the scientific papers and posters about the ICF presented by authors from around the world during the WHO-FIC Annual Meeting, on the following web pages. The first 9 entries in this roster are papers in .PDF format; the remainder are full-scale posters, also in .PDF format.

"Health Professions Manual for ICF: Electronic Review and Comment Process"
https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D015.pdf

"ICF-CY: A Framework for Human Rights"
https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D022.pdf

"Report of the Thirteenth Annual North American Collaborating Center Conference on ICF"
https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D037.pdf

"Deriving the ICF-CY: Lessons Learned for Classification Revisions"
https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D039.pdf

"Adoption by Governmental Committee of Provisional Criteria for the Qualifiers of Activity and Participation Based on Population Surveys"
https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D040.pdf

"ICF Education at the World Confederation of Physical Therapy Congress, 2007"
https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D041.pdf

"Report to FDRG -- Project 3 -- ICF and ICD"
https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D047.pdf

"Using the ICF to Improve the ICD: A Focus on Risk Factors"
https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D050.pdf

"Developing the ICF Classification of Personal Factors"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D057.pdf

"Three Model Curricula for Teaching Clinicians to Use the ICF"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D069.pdf

"ICF Core Set for AIDS Patients: A Preliminary Approach:

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D011p.pdf

"ICF in Neurology: The Role of Environment in Parkinson Disease"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D018p.pdf

"ICF and Neurology: Measuring Health in Children and Adolescents with Brain Tumor" https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D019p.pdf

"An ICF-Based Japanese and Costa Rican Joint Study on the Functioning of the Adult Population in a Suburban Municipality Near the Capital of Costa Rica"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D024p.pdf

"Introduction of ICF to Health Policy at the Time of Disasters: 'Limited Independence' as an Important Risk Factor for Decline of Functioning After a Heavy Snow"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D025p.pdf

"Impacts of Health Condition and Disability on the Functioning of [the] Older Population: Evidence in Support of Japanese Provisional Criteria"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D026p.pdf

"Implementation and Future Strategies of ICF-CY for Special Needs Education (SNE) in Japan"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D029p.pdf

"The Use of ICF in South Africa"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D035p.pdf

"ICF Education: A One-Day Course for Physiotherapists"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D041p.pdf

"The eFRHOM: Update Following Pilot Testing" [Electronic Functioning and Related Health Outcomes Module]

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D046p.pdf

"ICF Education: Development of a Core Curriculum"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D049p.pdf

"NACC 2008 Conference on ICF"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D058p.pdf

"A Measure of Activity and Participation (MAP): Its Role in Service Planning"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D061p.pdf

"Mapping ICF to SNOMED-CT: Pilot Experiences"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D062p.pdf

"Integrated Actions in Rehabilitation According to ICF"

https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D071p.pdf

"Application of ICF in Holistic Rehabilitation of Patients with Acquired Brain Injury" https://crs.sanita.fvg.it/WHO/Documents/WHOFIC2007_D072p.pdf

- **Summary Report on “New Federal Applications of the ICF,” a conference held July 10-11, 2007 in Crystal City, Virginia.**

In our November, 2007 edition of this ICF Newsletter, we described the outcomes of the July 10-11, 2007 “New Federal Applications of the ICF” conference, and predicted we would share a version of the Summary Report from that conference with this edition of the Newsletter. That Report is still under review, but in the meantime, the following website link from the conference will yield many of the speakers’ original PowerPoint presentations, for your reference.

<http://www.icdr.us/ICF07/materials.html>

Thanks to all the speakers and registrants for helping to make the Crystal City ICF Conference successful.