

**Current knowledge about the application of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health in relation to occupational therapy - a systematic review**

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**Introduction:** The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) provides a global conceptual framework which facilitates the understanding of health and health-related conditions, to be used by health professions including occupational therapists. The interest for ICF has increased since the launch in 2001 and a worldwide implementation of this classification is now on the agenda.

**Objectives:** This systematic review of scientific articles, where ICF has a considerable role in relation to occupational therapy, was undertaken with the purpose to synthesize an overview of the current knowledge about the application of ICF.

**Method:** A systematic literature search was performed in the databases AMED, CINAHL and MEDLINE, searching articles published 2001 - 2008. The keywords "International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health" or "ICF" was combined with core concepts included in the definition of occupational therapy as described by the WFOT. When duplicates were removed, 929 articles remained. When titles and abstracts were scrutinized, 487 articles were excluded as not relevant due to their topic, or to the inclusion or exclusion criteria. Currently, 442 articles are present in the ongoing review and analysing process of full-length articles.

**Results and conclusion:** Results and perspectives from this ongoing, systematic literature review concerning topics in relation to occupational therapy practice, education and research, will be presented at the WFOT congress.

**Contribution to the practice/evidence base of occupational therapy:** An updated knowledge base of ICF in relation to occupational therapy and rehabilitation is of great significance for occupational therapists working in different areas of health care, education or research worldwide.