

# Exploring the Brief ICF Core Sets for Hand Conditions in a Developing Country

Make today matter



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# Background info

- Every second year the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of Pretoria presents a Postgraduate Diploma in Hand Therapy (DHT). Students from all over South Africa apply for this course
- During this course, amongst other things, the students have a lecture on the ICF and then have to apply the Brief ICF Core Set for Hand Conditions to assess patients. They also have to submit a two page assignment on how they experienced the Brief ICF Core Set for Hand Conditions for each patient.
- Following the 2013 lecture the researcher decided to do a study on the DHT student's experience in using the Brief ICF Core Set for Hand Conditions.
- Students who enrolled for the DHT in 2015 and 2017 were invited to participate in this study.
- The 2015 DHT students submitted a single assessment in Block 2 and a pre- and post Rx assessment in Block 4. The 2017 DHT students only submitted the pre- and post Rx assessment in Block 4. All assessments were included in the study.

# Demographics - Participants

N=36	2015	2017	Total
Participants	17	19	36
Gender	17 female	18 female 1 male	36
Sector: Government	12	8	20
Sector: Private	5	11	16

	2015	2017	Mean
Age	28,1	27,8	27,95
Years experience	5,6	5,1	5,35
Years experience In hands	3,8	2,9	3,35
Rating: Experience in hands (10)	6,2	6,4	6,3
Rating: Knowledge of ICF (10)	4,2	5	4,6

# Demographics - Patients

	Patients	Age	Gender		Employed			Health Sector	
	Total=52		M	F	Y	N	Other	Government	Private
2015 1 <sup>st</sup> Patient	18	41	12	6	11	3	4	10	8
2015 2 <sup>nd</sup> Patient	15	37,93	11	4	12	2	1	7	8
2017	19	38,4	15	4	15	2	2	14	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>39,11</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>21</b>

# Evaluation of ICF - Positive/Negative 1

	Positive			
	d152	e3		d7
	Emotion	Environment + Support	Constructs + Qualifiers	Context
52 Patients	28	25	13	6
	53,84%	48,07%	23,07%	11,53%
Comments	Adherence to treatment	Key to successful Rx	More detailed information	Multi-cultural country

	Negative				
	b820			b280	
	Mobilisation of specific joint	Healing Process	Oedema	Fine hand co-ordination	Pain
	16	15	11	5	5
	30,76%	28,8%	21,2%	9,62%	9,62%
	Implied in b710	Signs Scarring	Acute injuries	Implied in b760	Too/not specific

# Evaluation of ICF - Positive/Negative 2

	Positive	Negative	Positive/Negative	
	Holistic	Time Consuming	Reflects Improvement	
			Yes	No
52 Patients	28	25	17	8
	53,84%	48,07%	32,69%	15,38%
Comments	Awareness of patient as individual within their unique context and not just their injured hand	Busy hospitals and private practices	Sensitive enough to detect improvement	Not sensitive enough to detect improvement

# Evaluation of ICF - General

	What is important to client	Universal language	Internet	Language	Children
52 Patients	28	6	6	5	2
	53,85%	11,53%	11,53%	9,62%	3,85%
Comments	Importance of function	Referrals	Access Cannot save	Non-English speakers struggled with terminology	Not child friendly

Additional Categories suggested: d920 Recreation and Leisure (16), b820 Repair functions of the skin (7)

# Conclusion

- The Brief ICF Core Set for Hand Conditions is suitable for a developing country, but the descriptions of the domains that contain the healing process (including oedema) and joint mobility is not specific enough.
- d920 Recreation and leisure could be added.

*“I think sometimes we as therapists especially in a very specific and outlined hand therapy setting can forget about the importance of the context, the environmental bubble around our patients and how that directly affects our patients and their therapy.”*