
The World Health Organization’s International Classification of Functioning, Health and Disability (ICF) and the companion Children and Youth version (ICF-CY) have become accepted frameworks to organize, standardize, and classify health and health-related functioning within the field of rehabilitation. While the ICF and ICF-CY have become familiar to pediatric physical therapists, this work organizes pediatric outcomes by ICF components in a manner that puts ICF-based measurement in the hands of the therapist by specifically addressing how existing measures provide coverage of specific ICF-CY concepts at a detailed (third) level.

The focus of the text is the identification of measures for use in infants, children, and adolescents with developmental disabilities. The text is organized in the following sections: Overview (Section 1); Body Structure and Functions (Section 2), including chapters on neuroimaging and genetic testing; Global Developmental Functioning—Body Functions, Activities and Participation—not classified (Section 3), which consists of chapters on screening for developmental and behavioral problems and global developmental assessments; Activities and Participation (Section 4); Contextual Factors (Section 5), personal and environmental factors specifically addressing relationships and health-system level measures; and Holistic View of Health and Well-Being (Section 6), which consists of 2 chapters that address health-status instruments and quality-of-life instruments.

Each section is logically organized into chapters by ICF-CY categories. Most chapters present a section defining and describing the ICF-CY construct, laying the foundation for selection of measures included in the chapter. A section describing some general considerations for measurement in the chapter’s specific topic area is then presented, followed by an over view of the measures. Recommended measures are provided as well as tables of the measures; both provide easy access to the information by the reader. In addition to the more typical index of general topics included in the text, an index of instruments is also included, allowing the reader to reference specific instruments and link back to the related ICF concepts and chapters.

As in any textbook, the work represents a snapshot in time. Given the dynamic evolving state of outcome measures, there are some emergent outcome measures that are not mentioned in the text. For example, many person-reported outcomes that can be used to measure ICF-CY concepts are not mentioned. In addition, the ICF-CY is in the process of being merged with the ICF to allow a single ICF-based framework across the lifespan. This in no way detracts from the importance of the content of this book. The breadth, comprehensiveness, and logical organization are profound and will help pediatric physical therapists better integrate ICF-CY measurement into their practice. The text is essential to international pediatric physical therapy practice and belongs and will become an invaluable addition to one’s resources as a pediatric therapist using ICF-based measurement.

Note that this text also is impressive in the comprehensiveness of its coverage of outcome measures as well as the ICF. The authors are international experts in health and measurement and young emerging scientists within the field of child health. Thus, the utility and relevance and the potential effect this text will have across political, social, and geographic boundaries is great. This text will serve as an excellent resource for all pediatric therapists, and it will serve as a welcome addition to individuals both experienced and new to the ICF-CY.

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