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Impact of Learning the International Classification Functioning Disability & Health (ICF) for Children and Youth Framework as Clinical Reasoning Tool for Paediatric Physiotherapists Working with Children with Cerebral Palsy

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This study was evaluated the impact of a two-day ICF-for Children and Youth (CY) in-service training on Pediatric Physiotherapists (PPTs) clinical reasoning and parental experience of the physiotherapy management of their child. Methods: A logic model was created to clarify the processes undertaken before, during and after delivery of ICF in-service training. A longitudinal evaluation of ICF training delivered to paediatric physiotherapists was undertaken in two phases: Phase1: Physiotherapist Questionnaire to measure ICF knowledge and its application was completed at the beginning and again at the end of training workshop. Phase 2: five months following the workshop, the parents of children with CP who were attending a physiotherapy department for treatment were asked to complete Parent Questionnaire that measured their experience of their child treatment. Four departments the PPTs had attended the ICF training workshop while in the other four; the PPTs had not attended the training. The impact of training was significant on PPTs' knowledge of the ICF, performance and cognition including intention, attitude toward application and perceived control of the application of contextual factors. Parents were more satisfied with the treatment provided by ICF-trained group. Satisfaction of parents whose child was being managed by an ICF trained PPT had significant relationships to the child's objective and co-operation with physiotherapy items. Findings from this study inform the development of ICF training as clinical reasoning tool for future studies to investigate ICF implementation. There is ample opportunity for learning the ICF model as clinical reasoning model, which will allow the cognitive processes that underlie decision making to become habitual. Once the decision making behavior that is applied to environmental and personal factors has become habit, it could lead to the implementation of the ICF model in physiotherapy practice.

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Biography

I am a pediatric physiotherapist at Al-Hada Armed forces hospital since 2004. I completed my Bachelor degree in Physiotherapy from King Saud University in 1993 and graduated with MSc from Cardiff University in 2011. Recently I completed Doctor of Philosophy from University of Strathclyde in 2017. I have split my working time between acquire my skills and clinical education since qualifying. I'm interested in development and evaluation children qualities of life-to figure out how pediatric physiotherapists use thinking strategy to develop proper individual treatment plan for each child. I'm focusing on importance of turning a treatment into a way of life, to influence child's collaborating with his/her parents and environment more effectively in activity of daily living. My research interests are in the area of application the International Classification Functioning Disability & Health (ICF) framework as clinical reasoning tool in physiotherapy clinical practice. My PhD study field was to explore the utility of the ICF (Children and Youth Version) framework as a clinical reasoning tool for physiotherapists who treat Children with cerebral palsy in Saudi Arabia. My research ambition to introduce and adapt more the ICF model in paediatric physiotherapy for children with cerebral palsy and other paediatric health condition based on evidence base practice.

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