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USAID'S HEALTH EVALUATION AND APPLIED RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT (HEARD) PROJECT

ISWP Integration Subcommittee Wednesday, April 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The ISWP Integration Subcommittee met by conference call on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:40 a.m. U. S. Eastern Daylight Saving Time/11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. GMT. This provides the meeting minutes.

Link to Meeting Recording: [link](#). Action items with responsibilities are shown in bold/underline.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 14, 2021. *Note new time for May-August 2021 calls:* 9:00 a.m. U.S. Eastern Daylight Saving Time/1:00 GMT.

Discussion:

1. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** There were no changes to the March 14, 2021 meeting minutes.
2. **WFOT Congress Abstract (March 27-30, 2022, Paris, France):** The group discussed the approach for the WFOT Congress since it has similar content to the OSS (November 2021) abstract. **Amira Tawashy** to submit as prepared and can modify, if necessary, if it is approved for OSS.
3. **Upcoming papers:**
 - a. **Joint Position Paper:** The paper was drafted following a high-level meeting of professional organizations in Switzerland in February 2017. The goal of the paper was to convey that wheelchair education should be taught more comprehensively across university and training programs.

Since several years have lapsed, and there have been changes in leadership, those who were drafting the paper decided to do a review article that looks at standards and other gray literature published by the organizations related to wheelchair service provision content and training. The paper would include recommendations on how standards in their next review (at 5 five year intervals) could be updated and/or informed by the group.

Paula Rushton and Mary Goldberg, who are leading the paper's development, will invite Integration Subcommittee members to contribute. The goal is to have a refreshed draft by mid-May 2021. Then, the group can decide whether it would be helpful to interview education committee members from various sector organizations for their perspectives.

- b. **WC Service Provision Process in Light of Recent Evidence:** This would be the subject of a second paper, resulting from Mary Goldberg's and Lee Kirby's conversation about the Integration Subcommittee's investment in reviewing the Wheelchair Service Training Packages.
4. **Wheelchair Educators' Package:** The group is working with the website developer on the user experience. Meetings are scheduled through April 30 both individually with Working Group leads and all of the Working Group leads to understand their needs. We anticipate the website will be ready for internal review by June 30 with external review by July 31. The goal is to start the pilots in September-October 2021.
5. **ISWP Academic Training Partners:** ISWP is recruiting presenters for the next call. Sonya Horsman, Government of Western Australia, will present in September 2021. **Subcommittee members** to suggest additional presenters.
6. **ISWP Separate Entity:** The ISWP Founding Board, comprised of a cross-section of sector leaders, met on Monday, April 12 to approve the ISWP bylaws. The bylaws will be submitted to the U.S. Government in order to establish ISWP as a charitable non-profit organization.

A subset of the Board – the Change Management Team – meets regularly to discuss logistics of creating the new organization. Change Management Team members are David Constantine, Founding Board Chair; Silvana Contepomi, Founding Board Vice Chair; Eric Wunderlich, Founding Board Secretary-Treasurer; Jon Pearlman, Mary Goldberg and Nancy Augustine. Consulting firm AMCES has been advising the Board and Change Management Team.

ISWP submitted a follow-on funding request to USAID to support the new entity in October-December 2021, once ISWP's current grant ends.

7. **Continued Review of the WHO WSTP-Basic Reference Manual:** To confirm, ISWP is not authorized by WHO to modify the Basic package; we are using it as a starting point to create a new ISWP Basic training package. Mary Goldberg suggested the package could be launched in a similar fashion to the rehab competency framework, with a meeting with Chapal and Louise at WHO in advance to inform them of our work. We would acknowledge it is not a WHO-approved process but will be open source, and all references will be cited.

Subcommittee members discussed each other’s input on Step 6, Fitting:

- Lack of evidence-based guidelines for best fit. Amira suggests including a textbook as a reference, which is based on many years of clinical practice. **Mary Goldberg** to contact the authors when it is appropriate.
- Wheelchair fitting checklist -> 2. Check pressure: Replace everywhere that has the angles written down. For example, 90 instead of right angle.
- Lee commented in the document to have the “Problem Solving” section as optional. Amira and Sara suggest that we should keep it in the manual as some of the audience might not be clinicians and this will help in the clinical reasoning. It could be placed somewhere else (maybe FAQs) if not for this section in the manual.

For the next meeting, **members** will review the last two steps in the manual (7 and 8).

The following notes continue to be carried over from the February 10, 2021 meeting minutes as a reminder for next steps:

- Once the package review is complete, **Lee Kirby** to send an e-mail introduction to Amira Tawashy and Alicia Koontz, Pitt professor who is a member of the Wheelchair Skills Program Editorial Committee, requesting she review the transfer material and any other sections. Lee commented that as far as wheelchair skills go, the more advanced skills go with the basic package (in the Transfers section) because those users do not require postural support. Amira agreed that transfer and mobility skills should be covered.
- Several of the sketches will need to be modified. **ISWP team** to discuss options for finding an artist. Amira also feels the sketches need to reflect greater diversity; e.g., introduce a degree of shading in some sketches.

Participants *(check mark indicates participation on call)*

√	Sudakhar Govindasamy
√	Praveen Khumar, Motivation
	Lee Kirby, Dalhousie University
	Thais Pousada, Universidad de la Coruña
	Teresa Plummer, Belmont University
√	Paula Rushton, University of Montreal
	Padmaja Kankipati, WHO and SMOI
	Samantha Shann, WFOT

√	Amira Tawashy, Dalhousie University (Chair)
√	Mary Goldberg, University of Pittsburgh
√	Sara Munera Orozco, University of Pittsburgh
√	Krithika Kandavel, University of Pittsburgh
√	Nancy Augustine, University of Pittsburgh

Prepared by: Nancy Augustine and Krithika Kandavel

Reviewed by: Amira Tawashy