



# INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE

THE RESULT OF THE MERGER AND INTEGRATION OF IRMA AND IFPMR

## NEWS & VIEWS – OCTOBER 2005

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### PRESIDENT OF ISPRM VISITS BANGKOK, THE LAND OF SMILE

By Linamara Battistella, ISPRM President

Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, is a powerful city, with thousands of new modern glass and iron buildings and an absurd traffic jam; it takes us one hour to drive 1km in the central area; it is easier and faster to go on foot. Some time ago on the surroundings of this city we could see large plantations of rice, peasants with traditional hats and buffaloes; now, we see industries instead. Prosperity is evident. This country has undergone and will undergo radical social changes.

This is a sweet and smiling country of farmers. It has been called "The Land of Smile" and has become scenario to several operas not without cause. Most of its visitors like this country very much, and its tourist prestige is enormous.

It is a privilege to gaze at the Thai Vat temples. These buildings make us to fall in love at the first sight and I still regard their architecture as most elegant and lest pretentious. There is a touch of refinement and intimacy.

Sightseeing through the Thonbury channels is a fascinating experience. In fact Bangkok floats over water; some people say the city is flooding. In a certain way, the large quantity of skyscrapers contradicts this affirmation; and so does the news of lack of potable water on the region. However, we feel this hypothesis seems to be true: we see channels and stilt houses everywhere; the Menam Chao Praia river seems to embrace all homes.

Welcomed by Dr. Pradit Prateepavanich in an affectionate way, I was pleasantly surprised to know a great and modern Thai hospital with 2000 beds. In this fantastic Hospital there is a modern and well-equipped Rehabilitation Centre. Beside the vast area where the multidisciplinary team work in turns to assist the patients, I could get in touch with young physicians and medical residents who integrate this fantastic team.

We may summarise Thai Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in a few words: tradition, modernity, youth and enthusiasm.

Congratulations, Dr Pradit!



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### PUERTO RICO – A FANTASTIC DESTINATION

By Linamara Battistella, ISPRM President

A delegation of Board members of ISPRM visited Puerto Rico last June. We met there a large team of well-trained young physicians headed by Dr. William Micheo.

Dr. Verónica Rodríguez welcomed us with her usual high spirits and led us on a tour around San Juan, the capital. We visited the Convention Center - which will host our World Congress in the future - as well as the various options of accommodation on the surrounding area.

Beside these aspects, Puerto Rico has many tourism attractions: wonderful beaches, the old city with its colonial style along with the modern buildings.

If the destination for our future World Congress is actually Puerto Rico, I am sure we will have a great meeting characterized by a high scientific level, in an atmosphere of congeniality, elegance and happiness.

### PRESENCE DURING AAPM&R

By Werner Van Cleemputte, ISPRM Executive Director

During the upcoming AAPM&R Annual Assembly in Philadelphia (October 27-30) the ISPRM will have a booth and our Executive Director Werner Van Cleemputte will also be present. So please do not hesitate to pass by at our booth.

### NEWS & VIEWS EDITORIAL BOARD

The ISPRM News & Views Editorial Board consists of:

Editors	Nicolas Christodoulou	<a href="mailto:chrisfam@logosnet.cy.net">chrisfam@logosnet.cy.net</a>
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Please feel free to submit articles for the News & Views and to take part in our Editorial Board.



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### PUBLICATION OF ABSTRACTS FROM OUR ISPRM JOURNAL “DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION”,

Abstracts selected by Nicolas Christodoulou, Chairman of the Journal and News & Views Committee and Member of the Editorial Board of “Disability and Rehabilitation”

Issue: Volume 27, Number 17 / 2 September 2005

Pages: 977 - 983

#### **Reliability in assigning ICF codes to children with special health care needs using a developmentally structured interview**

Rebecca A Kronk A1, A2, Julie A Ogonowski A3, Carryn N Rice A3, Heidi M Feldman A1, A3

A1 Department of Paediatrics, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

A2 School of Nursing, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

A3 University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this study was to determine if two teams of raters could reliably assign codes and performance qualifiers from the Activities and Participation component of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF) to children with special health care needs based on the results of a developmentally structured interview.

#### **Method**

Children (N=40), ages 11 months to 12 years 10 months, with a range of health conditions, were evaluated using a structured interview consisting of open-ended questions and scored using developmental guidelines. For each child, two raters made a binary decision indicating whether codes represented an area of need or no need for that child. Raters assigned a performance qualifier, based on the ICF guidelines, to each code designated as an area of need. Cohen's  $\kappa$  statistic was used as the measure of inter-rater reliability.

#### **Results**

Team I reached good to excellent agreement on 39/39 codes and Team II on 38/39 codes. Team I reached good to excellent agreement on 5/5 qualifiers and Team II on 10/14 qualifiers.

#### **Conclusions**

A developmentally structured interview was an effective clinical tool for assigning ICF codes to children with special health care needs. The interview resulted in higher rates of agreement than did results from standardized functional assessments. Guidelines for assigning performance qualifiers must be modified for use with children.

Issue: Volume 27, Number 17 / 2 September 2005

Pages: 1013 - 1021

#### **Women's perception of changes in the social network after a spinal cord injury**

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A1 Department of Health Sciences, Luleå University of Technology, Boden, Sweden

A2 Department of Rehabilitation, Lund University Hospital, Lund, Sweden

A3 Department of Health Sciences, Lund University, Malmö, Sweden

#### **Purpose**

To describe how women with a spinal cord injury (SCI) perceived changes in the social network, and how these changes affected their ability to participate in occupation.

#### **Method**

Thirteen women, aged 25 to 61 years, with a SCI were interviewed twice. The interviews focused on their ability to participate in occupation, their relations with individuals within the social network, and changes in the social network following the SCI. The analysis was carried out using qualitative content analysis.

#### **Results**

The women described an emotional need for social support after the SCI to participate in occupation. This was a new experience that required time to adapt to. The women also described a need for practical social support from the social network members to manage meaningful occupation. After the SCI, the women had developed new habits through close cooperation with members in the social network. The women felt that they had become more responsible for the development of their relations. Many relations had improved after the SCI, while some had decreased. The women had also developed new relations with other persons with disabilities.

#### **Conclusions**

The women perceived substantial changes in the social network following the SCI, which in several ways affected their ability to participate in occupation. To adapt to their new life situation, the women gradually developed different strategies. The results point out the need to identify persons in the social network that women with SCI develop relations with, and integrate them in the rehabilitation process



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Pages: 1023 - 1028

### **Discriminant ability of the Trunk Impairment Scale: A comparison between stroke patients and healthy individuals**

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A2 Department of Neurology, UZ Gasthuisberg, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

#### **Purpose**

The Trunk Impairment Scale (TIS) is a standardized scale to evaluate the trunk function in stroke patients. It was the aim of this study to determine the discriminant ability of the TIS by comparing stroke patients with healthy individuals. Further, the variables that had an influence on obtaining a high score on the TIS in healthy subjects were examined.

#### **Method**

Forty stroke patients and 40 age- and sex-matched healthy individuals were included in the study. TIS scores from the stroke patients and healthy individuals were compared using the Wilcoxon ranked sum test.

#### **Results**

Sub-scale and total TIS scores showed significant differences between stroke patients and healthy individuals ( $P < 0.0001$ ). Univariate analysis and logistic regression analysis further revealed that younger persons, women and people who are more active in daily life have a higher chance of obtaining a high score on the TIS.

#### **Conclusions**

The TIS discriminates between stroke patients and healthy individuals. A submaximal score on the TIS was found in 45% of the healthy subjects suggesting that a lower score on the TIS still indicates normal trunk function and full participation in daily life.



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### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CONGRESSES

**Congresses with the ISPRM logo are endorsed by the ISPRM and offer reduced fees to ISPRM Members**

- Congresses on **Stroke** [http://www.internationalstroke.org/s\\_content.php?id=fb2002-03-04-1020](http://www.internationalstroke.org/s_content.php?id=fb2002-03-04-1020)
- Congresses on **Neurology** [http://www.eurostroke.org/esc\\_main%20links.htm](http://www.eurostroke.org/esc_main%20links.htm)
- Congresses on **PM&R** <http://www.prm-calendar.org/Default.aspx>

### CONGRESSES TAKING PLACE IN 2005

- **4th International Course on the Hand**, 24 to 28 October 2005, Bodrum, Turkey, visit: [www.vitalmedbodrum.com](http://www.vitalmedbodrum.com)
- **67<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly of the AAPMR**, 27 – 30 October 2005, Philadelphia Marriott, USA – [www.aapmr.org](http://www.aapmr.org)
- **International Conference on CP Rehabilitation**, 1st & 2nd November, 2005, Patna, India, Contact: [cpr2005@rediffmail.com](mailto:cpr2005@rediffmail.com)
- **XVIIIth World Congress of Neurology**, November 05 - 11, 2005, Sydney, Australia <http://www.medeserv.com.au/aan/events/wcn2005/index.html>
- **XXXIII SIMFER National Congress**: The intensive/extensive rehabilitation in Italy: a link between Europe and the Mediterranean area., November 8-12, 2005, Catania, Sicily, Italy - Main language Italian - Visit: [www.simfer.it](http://www.simfer.it)
- **Rehabilitation International Arab Conference, "Disability Rights in a Changing Worlds"**, November 14-16, 2005, Kingdom of Bahrain, For more information: [www.bah-molsa.com](http://www.bah-molsa.com)
- **New Zealand Rehabilitation Association Conference**, 17 to 19 November 2005, Auckland, New Zealand. Contact: [samira@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:samira@adhb.govt.nz)
- **2nd Educational Seminar of Neuropathic Bladder Unit**, 18 – 19 November 2005, Park Hotel, Athens, Greece. Visit [tnt@tnt-executive.gr](mailto:tnt@tnt-executive.gr)
- **Belgian Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation**, 2-3 December 2005. Brussels, Auditorium KBC – Visit [www.medicongress.com](http://www.medicongress.com)
- **11th International Symposium on Neural Regeneration**, 14-18 December, 2005, Asilomar Conference Center, Pacific Grove, California, USA: Visit [www.vard.org/neural/neural.htm](http://www.vard.org/neural/neural.htm)



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### UPCOMING YEARS

- **34th Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation**, 20-22 January 2006, Mumbai, India. Contact [vamaevents@yahoo.co.in](mailto:vamaevents@yahoo.co.in)
- **ICF User Forum** 6-7 February 2006, Sydney, Australia - contact: [sally.bullock@aihw.gov.au](mailto:sally.bullock@aihw.gov.au)
- **4<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Neurorehabilitation**, Hong Kong, 12-16 February 2006, visit [www.wcnr2006.com](http://www.wcnr2006.com)
- **World Parkinson Congress**, 22-26 February 2006, Washington. USA, Contact: [info@worldpdcongress.org](mailto:info@worldpdcongress.org)
- **42nd Annual AAP Educational Conference of the Association of Academic Physiatrists**, 28 February - 4 March 2006, New Orleans, LA, USA – visit [www.physiatry.org](http://www.physiatry.org)
- **17th National Congress with international participation: Pain in Rehabilitation Medicine**, 17 & 18 March 2006, Ljubljana, Slovenia – Contact [marincek.crt@mail.ir-rs.si](mailto:marincek.crt@mail.ir-rs.si)
- **26<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australian Pain Society**, 9-12 April 2006, Grand Hyatt Hotel, Melbourne, Australia – visit [www.apsoc.org.au](http://www.apsoc.org.au)
- **Stroke Rehab 2006 – Evidence for Stroke Rehabilitation – Bridges into the Future**, April 26-28, 2006, Goteburg, Sweden – [contactgunnar.grimby@rehab.gu.se](mailto:contactgunnar.grimby@rehab.gu.se) or [www.congres.se/stroke2006](http://www.congres.se/stroke2006)
- **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM)**, 2-5 May 2006, Cairns, Australia, visit: [www.racp.edu.au/afrm](http://www.racp.edu.au/afrm)
- **15<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation**, 16-20 May 2006, Madrid, Spain. Visit [www.ecprm2006.com](http://www.ecprm2006.com)
- **XXXIV SIMFER National Congress**, Movement and autonomy: assessment and techniques. June 4 – 7, 2006, Florence, Italy – Main language Italian – Visit: [www.simfer.it](http://www.simfer.it)
- **35<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Int Society of Medical of Hydrology and Climatology – Rehabilitation in Spa's and Health Resorts**, 7-10 June 2006 in Istanbul, Turkey, visit [www.ismh2006.com](http://www.ismh2006.com)
- **ISSLS 2006**, Annual Congress of the **International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine**, 13-17 June 2006, Bergen, Norway, Contact: [issls@medicongress.com](mailto:issls@medicongress.com) – [www.issls.org](http://www.issls.org)
- **31<sup>st</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA) and the International Spinal Cord Society (ISCoS)**, 25-28 June 2006, Boston, MA, USA. Visit [www.asia-spinalinjury.org/annualmeeting](http://www.asia-spinalinjury.org/annualmeeting)
- **XXX Congresso Brasileiro de Medicina Fisica e Reabilitacao**, July 12-15 2006, Belo Horizonte, Brazil: visit [www.rhodeseventos.com.br](http://www.rhodeseventos.com.br)
- **131st Annual Meeting of the American Neurological Association**, 08- 11 October, 2006, Chicago, IL, USA, <http://www.aneuroa.org/annual.htm>
- **5th Int. Congress on Spondyloarthropathies**, 12-14 October 2006, Gent, Belgium, Visit [www.medicongress.com](http://www.medicongress.com)



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- **6<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Congress of PM&R**, 18-22 October 2006, Marina Hotel, Vilamoura, Portugal. Visit [www.the.pt](http://www.the.pt)
- **22<sup>th</sup>, Congress of the Latin-American Medical Association**, November 8-12, 2006, Veracruz, Mexico, contact [jmguzman@avantel.net](mailto:jmguzman@avantel.net)
- **68<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly of the AAPMR**, 9-12 November 2006, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA – [www.aapmr.org](http://www.aapmr.org)
- **4<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the Cuban Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Society**, March 26-30, 2007, Havana, Cuba - visit [www.sld.cu/sitios/rehabilitation](http://www.sld.cu/sitios/rehabilitation) or contact [jorge.martin@infomed.sld.cu](mailto:jorge.martin@infomed.sld.cu)
- **12<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics**, July 29 - August 3, 2007, Vancouver, Canada. Visit: [www.ispo.ca/congress](http://www.ispo.ca/congress)
- **9<sup>th</sup> Congress of European Federation for Research in Rehabilitation (EFRR)** , 27 to 31 August 2007, Budapest, Hungary - Theme: "Partnership in rehabilitation research"- Contact: Prof. Lajos Kullmann, [l.kullmann@rehabint.hu](mailto:l.kullmann@rehabint.hu)
- **69<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly of the AAPMR**, 27-30 September 2007, Boston, USA – visit [www.aapmr.org](http://www.aapmr.org)
- **Eurospine 2007**, 2-5 October 2007, Brussels, Belgium, Heizel Congress Center – visit: [www.medicongress.com](http://www.medicongress.com)
- **Annual Congress 2007 SOFMER (French Society on PM&R)**, 4-6 October 2007, Rennes- St Malo, France – contact [gdekorvin@cpa-sante.com](mailto:gdekorvin@cpa-sante.com)
- **European Congress on Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation**, 4-7 June 2008, Brugge Belgium, Old St John's Hospital Congress Centre. Visit [www.medicongress.com](http://www.medicongress.com)
- **7<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Congress of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine**, 18 - 21 September 2008, Portorose, Slovenia Contact: Prof. Crt Marinček [marincek.crt@mail.ir-rs.si](mailto:marincek.crt@mail.ir-rs.si)
- **70<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly of the AAPMR**, 20-23 November 2008, San Diego, USA – [www.aapmr.org](http://www.aapmr.org)
- **AMLAR 2008**, November 2008, Punta Del Este, Uruguay – [www.surmedfi.org.uy](http://www.surmedfi.org.uy)



**4th ISPRM World Congress – June 10 - 14, 2007 in Seoul, Korea**

**5th ISPRM World Congress – May 9 -13, 2009 in Istanbul, Turkey**

**Please feel free to announce your upcoming congresses in this agenda by sending an email with all relevant information to the Central Office.**