



ISWP Evidence-based Practice Working Group August 1, 2019 Meeting Recap

The ISWP Evidence-based Practice Working Group met by conference call on Thursday, August 1, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:55 a.m. U. S. Eastern Time. This provides a recap.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 10:00 am U.S. Eastern Time/15:00 UTC.**

Link to Meeting Recording: <https://iswp.adobeconnect.com/p8ihnvu3x9ra/>

Discussion: (action items in bold/underline)

1. **January 17, 2019 WG Meeting Recap:** Working Group members to provide Nancy Augustine with any changes to the meeting recap.
2. **New Working Group Member:** The group welcomes Alia Alghwiri, PT, PhD, University of Jordan.
3. **Maria Toro Hernandez' Role at ISWP:** Maria Toro Hernandez has joined ISWP as technical program manager as part of the new URC grant. Maria is a biomedical engineer with a master's degree in rehab science and technology and PhD in Rehab Science, both from the University of Pittsburgh. Maria's 12 years of experience in the wheelchair sector has included positions in academia, with NGOs and in research. She completed WHO training and trained in settings such as Colombia, Guatemala and Argentina. Maria also worked as a professor, integrating wheelchair content in university curricula in the U.S., Mexico and Colombia. She assisted in developing the CLASP Product Advisory Council.
4. **Minimum Uniform Dataset (MUD):** Maria Toro Hernandez drafted the manuscript regarding the MUD development. The group suggested that the paper focus on developing the MUD, with a subsequent paper focused on its feasibility of use and application in Kenya and the Wheelchair Users' Voice Project. Maria Toro Hernandez will share the draft with any Working Group members who are interested in co-authoring; Padmaja expressed interest.

Megan D'Innocenzo reported on how the MUD is being used in the Wheelchair Users' Voice Project, currently under way in El Salvador. Thirty-two (32) of 36 questions from the MUD long form version are part of an approximately 100 question survey being administered to clients at baseline, 3 month and 6 month intervals. The goal is to have 250 participants, with an anticipated project end date of November 2019. Kobo Toolbox is being used to collect the data.



5. **Recent ISWP Dissemination:** Five ISWP-related papers have published recently; Maria Toro Hernandez indicated a sixth paper regarding use of the ISWP Basic Test among OT students in Colombia will be submitted soon. Four ISWP papers were accepted for the August 2019 GReAT Consultation in Geneva, Switzerland.
6. **ISWP Data Series through ADDEP:** Working Group members are encouraged to submit studies to the [ISWP data series](#) through ADDEP to increase research capacity in the wheelchair sector. Four studies from nine countries are available currently. Instructions for depositing data will be sent with this meeting recap. There is no charge to deposit or access data. ADDEP offers year-round funding (\$10,000 including indirects) to support archiving data from completed studies related to rehab, recovery or disability ([link](#)). Contact Megan D’Innocenzo, ISWP clinical coordinator, med135@pitt.edu, with questions or for more information.
7. **ISWP Activities Update:** ISWP received \$1 million funding from USAID (through approximately April 2020) with four objectives: a) develop wheelchair product standards for adverse conditions; b) establish wheelchair service standards encompassing potential accreditation or credentialing; c) promote collaboration within the wheelchair sector; and d) establish ISWP as a separate entity. USAID approved the work plan and a five-year outlook for the organization.

In the area of product standards, ISWP continues caster testing, rolling resistance and corrosion testing, as well as providing drawings of test equipment which organizations can use for their own facilities. The caster testing was submitted to ISO as a technical standard for wheelchairs in less-resourced countries. Jon Pearlman and Anand Mhatre sit on ISO Technical Committee 173, which Jon also chairs.

In the area of service standards, ISWP continues to offer the Basic test (14 languages) and Intermediate test (2 languages), with 3,740 Basic test takers (from 92 countries) and 559 Intermediate test takers (from 20 countries) to date.

A new Basic Wheelchair Service Provider Certification was launched at ISS and is being promoted to individuals and organizations. The certification acknowledges that providers have appropriate wheelchair service provision knowledge at the basic level and have received appropriate training, both which are valuable to employers and wheelchair users. Certified providers are acknowledged as a Certified Wheelchair Service Providers for 2 years on ISWP’s Wheelchair International Network (WIN). There is a fee, which is tiered based on professional status and country. Bulk discounts are available for organizations. To date, 57 service providers from 20 countries have received the Certification (updated from 7 individuals, 6 countries reported during the call.)

The Integration Subcommittee continues to meet to share resources on integrating wheelchair service into the curricula of universities and training programs. The [SMART](#) toolkit website also hosts resources for wheelchair service educators. Integration partners meet regularly to describe their experiences. With support from Latter-day Saints Charities and American Wheelchair Mission, ISWP is developing additional online training modules in English and Spanish. Modules will be based on WHO WSTP-Basic Modules B1-B14; WSTP-Training of Trainers Core, Basic and Intermediate; WSTP-Managers, and WSTP-Stakeholders. Modules are expected to be completed by December 2019.

Through a separate grant, Mary Goldberg is researching whether a Basic skills assessment could complement, or perhaps replace, the current ISWP Basic online test.

In the area of collaboration, ISWP staff and members represent the organization at sector conferences, including eight upcoming meetings through November 2019. Jon Pearlman reported about on ongoing meetings and conversations with the Mobility First Consortium (primarily ISPO), a group formed last year to respond to the USAID technical proposal request. The group is focusing on setting priorities for the sector in the area of service standards and ways to disseminate and promote the standards.

Participants:

	Alia Alghwiri, University of Jordan
	Johan Borg, Lund University
	Nathan Bray, Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation
	Molly Broderon, Free Wheelchair Mission
	Louisa Cotton, Independent Consultant
✓	Mark Harniss, University of Washington
	Astrid Jenkinson, Motivation UK
✓	Padmaja Kankipati, SMOI, <i>Chair</i>
	Karen Reyes, WHO
	Karen Rispin, Assistive Technology Catalyst Project
	Chandra Whestine, World Vision
	Jennifer Wong, Free Wheelchair Mission
✓	Eric Wunderlich, LDS Charities
✓	Megan D’Innocenzo, University of Pittsburgh
✓	Maria Toro Hernandez, Universidad CES/Univ. of Pittsburgh
✓	Tricia Karg, University of Pittsburgh
✓	Jon Pearlman, University of Pittsburgh
	Krithika Kandavel, University of Pittsburgh
✓	Nancy Augustine, University of Pittsburgh

Prepared by Nancy Augustine. Reviewed by Padmaja Kankipati.