



THE ABCs OF ICF FOR PROVIDERS OF REHABILITATIVE CARE

Describing
FUNCTION LLC *Your guide to the ICF*

- Describing Function, LLC
- Rehabilitation provider needs vs. resources
 - Hospitals
 - Providers of Outpatient Rehabilitation Services
 - Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities
- The importance of functional status
- The ICF
- Potential educational interventions
- Potential software interventions
- Contact us

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- **Goal:** To provide healthcare organizations with instruction on using the ICF to further their strategic plans

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- **Objective #1:** Partner with others to engage and educate healthcare organizations providing rehabilitation, hospice and palliative care services on the ICF

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- **Objective #2:** Collaborate with software vendors to create decision-support systems that incorporate the domains and categories contained in the ICF

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- **Objective #3:** Collaborate with State, National, and International organizations to promote use of the ICF

Identifying Unmet Need – Rehabilitation

Organizational Needs

- To implement a comprehensive assessment that includes functional status

Organizational Resources

- Varied; some standardized instruments
- Mixture of electronic and paper-based documentation

CMS Conditions of Participation & Coverage

- According to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS):
 - Conditions of Participation (CoP) and Conditions for Coverage (CfC) are minimum health and safety standards that providers and suppliers must meet in order to be Medicare and Medicaid certified.

Code of Federal Regulations

Hospital CoPs

- Title 42 § 482.21 requires:
 - An effective Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement (QAPI) Program
 - Performance Improvement Projects
 - The number and scope must be proportional to the scope and complexity of the hospital's services and operations

Hospital CoPs

- § 482.21(d)(2) allows for one of the performance improvement projects to be the development and implementation of an information technology system explicitly designed to improve safety and quality of care.

Code of Federal Regulations Outpatient Rehabilitation Services

- Title 42 § 410.61
 - Plan of treatment requirements
 - (a) Outpatient rehabilitation services (including services furnished by a qualified physical or occupational therapist in private practice), must be furnished under a written plan of treatment

Code of Federal Regulations Outpatient Rehabilitation Services

- Title 42 § 410.61:
 - Plan of treatment requirements
 - (c) The plan prescribes the type, amount, frequency, and duration of the physical therapy, occupational therapy, or speech-language pathology services to be furnished to the individual and indicates the diagnosis and anticipated goals

Code of Federal Regulations CORF CoPs

- Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility (CORF)
- Title 42 § 485.66 (a) requires:
 - A written utilization review plan to assess the necessity of services and promotes the most efficient use of services provided by the facility

Code of Federal Regulations CORF CoPs

- Title 42 § 485.66 (b) requires:
 - The utilization review plan must contain written procedures for evaluating:
 - (1) Admissions, continued care, and discharges
 - (2) The applicability of the plan of treatment to established goals

Code of Federal Regulations CORF CoPs

- Title 42 § 485.66 (b) requires:
 - The utilization review plan must contain written procedures for evaluating:
 - (3) The adequacy of clinical records with regard to:
 - (i) Assessing the quality of services provided
 - (ii) Determining whether the facility's policies and clinical practices are compatible and promote appropriate and efficient utilization of services

The Unmet Need

- A comprehensive, valid, and reliable framework for capturing data on functional status that is:
 - Relevant throughout the rehabilitation continuum of care
 - Understood by all stakeholders, including physicians
 - Promotes use of electronic health records

The Importance of Functional Status

- It drives resource utilization
- It's related to rehabilitative outcomes
- It's instrumental in managing risk

The ICF

- The International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health (ICF):
 - A taxonomy that captures health status
 - Contains both positive and negative aspects
 - Includes domains and categories that can be used to comprehensively describe “functional status”
 - Complements ICD-10-CM

Support for ICF

- American Medical Association
- American Physical Therapy Association
- American Occupational Therapy Association
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Association of Rehabilitation Nurses

Limitations

- Relatively new taxonomy
 - Many providers have not heard of ICF
 - Addressed in Describing Function, LLC objective 1
- Lack of an electronic method for capturing ICF-based data
 - Many providers are paper-based or using systems designed for other disciplines
 - Addressed in Describing Function, LLC objective 2

Relatively New Taxonomy

- **Action Plan:** Educate providers of inpatient/outpatient rehabilitation services about the strategic, management, and operations-level benefits of using the ICF to describe their patient populations

Potential Educational Interventions

- Distance learning
 - Web-based educational modules
- In-person instruction
 - Group
 - Customized

Potential Software Interventions

- Incorporation of ICF Core Sets
 - To help users adhere to CoP requirements
 - To help users better define high-risk populations
 - To help users continually improve their quality processes

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