Implementing a systematic approach to rating scale selection: Lessons learned

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Rating Scale Selection

- Background
- Approach
- Application
- Outcomes
- Lessons learnt
Background
Western Health

Acute OT service
Rehabilitation 
Aged Care 
Paediatric
Plastic Surgery Hand Therapy

- Outcome measurement challenge
- Aims

Process

- Setting the vision
- Education
- Workshops
- Work plan
- Resources
- Mentoring
Conceptually define

Select

Verify

Appraise

Implement

Evaluate

Rating scales closely examined

Acute

Rehabilitation

Aged Care

Paediatric

Plastic Surgery Hand Therapy

AUSTOMS

PC-PART

Modified Barthel Index

COPM

PC-PART

Frenchay Activities Index

PC-PART

Modified Barthel Index

Caregiver Strain Index

COPM

Goal Attainment Scaling

COPM

Disability of the Arm, Shoulder and Hand Scale

AUSTOMS
Conceptually define

Select

Verify

Appraise

Implement

Evaluate

Appraise

Utility

Relevance

Psychometrics
Rating Scales selected for trial implementation

Acute  | Rehabilitation  | Aged Care  | Paediatric  | Plastic Surgery Hand Therapy

- **AUSTOMS**
- **PC-PART COPM** (Inpatient rehabilitation)
- **PC-PART**
- **COPM** (Community Rehab)
- **COPM Goal Attainment Scaling**
- **Disability of the Arm, Shoulder and Hand Scale**

Conceptually define

- **Select**
- **Verify**

- **Appraise**
- **Implement**
- **Evaluate**
Application

- Rating scales on trial for 4 out of 5 cohorts.
- Preliminary data demonstrating efficacy of Occupational Therapy.
- Data used to develop service clinical indicators.
- Building depth of evidence about where to target resources.

Provisional Outcomes

Paediatric outpatients (n=25)

Canadian Occupational Performance Measure

100% demonstrated improvement in both performance and satisfaction in relation to specific client generated goals

Satisfaction > Performance in 100% of patients
Provisional Outcomes

Rehabilitation Inpatients (n=85)

PCPART (*Measures participation restriction*)

100% demonstrated improvement following Occupational Therapy intervention

Group averages:

- Unresolved restrictions on admission (pp) 10.6
- Unresolved restrictions on discharge (pp) 1.5
- Restrictions resolved by discharge (pp) 86.1%

Secondary Outcomes

- Facilitated greater depth of clinical reasoning and practice wisdom.
- Clinicians are more confident, and feel more valued/satisfied in their jobs.
- Led to service improvements
Lessons learned:

- Outcome measurement is complex and many rating scales have limitations.
- Subtle differences in intervention have a significant bearing on the underpinning conceptual definition.

Lessons learned:

- There are broad differences between rating scales claiming to measure the same domain.
- The title of rating scales can be misleading.
- It is necessary to weigh up and trade off the relative merit of rating scales with their utility and relevance.
Summary and conclusions

- We implemented a framework to identify, select and evaluate the efficacy of rating scales that related to our work.
- The process requires ongoing commitment, critical appraisal and evaluation.
- There have been primary and secondary benefits
- Education and mentoring program was a useful adjunct

Questions and comments

1. Conceptually define
2. Select
3. Verify
4. Appraise
5. Implement
6. Evaluate

- Utility
- Relevance
- Psychometrics