

EDITORIAL

The Mantra for every child with special needs should be inclusion & empowerment. For this to happen ICF (International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health) checklist, its wide application and extensive use can be a game changer. This is a checklist of major categories of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) of the World Health Organization, The ICF Checklist is a practical tool to elicit and record information on the functioning and disability of an individual. It is important to understand the difference between ACTIVITY LIMITATIONS & PARTICIPATION RESTRICTION

Activity is the execution of a task or action by an individual. Participation is involvement in a life situation. Activity limitations are difficulties an individual may have in executing activities. The Capacity qualifier indicates the extent of Activity limitation by describing the person ability to execute a task or an action. The Capacity qualifier focuses on limitations that are inherent or intrinsic features of the person themselves. These limitations should be direct manifestations of the respondent's health state, without the assistance. By assistance we mean the help of another person, or assistance provided by an adapted or specially designed tool or vehicle, or any form of environmental modification to a room, home, workplace etc. The level of capacity should be judged relative to that normally expected of the person, or the person's capacity before they acquired their health condition.

Participation restrictions are problems an individual may have in involvement in life situations. The Performance qualifier indicates the extent of Participation restriction by describing the persons actual performance of a task or action in his or her current environment. Because the current environment brings in the societal context, performance can also be understood as "involvement in a life situation" or "the lived experience" of people in the actual context in which they live. This context includes the environmental factors – all aspects of the physical, social and attitudinal world that can be coded using the Environmental. The Performance qualifier measures the difficulty the respondent experiences in doing things, assuming that they want to do them.

It is in this backdrop that individualised intervention program for attainment of maximum potential for every child with special needs should be planned.

Best Regards

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