

Using pictures to promote health

Australia – Child and Adolescent Health Service: Picture my Participation

SUMMARY OF PROJECT

“Picture my Participation” is a paediatric self-report tool – currently available in English and developed in Australia, Canada, South Africa, Sweden, Uganda, and Vietnam – that uses pictures to discuss health-related topics for children aged 5–17 in various contexts and settings. The tool identifies frequencies, levels of involvement, and barriers and facilitators to a child’s participation in home, school, and community settings. The aim of the project is to develop an appropriate instrument to measure the level of participation of children with disabilities in low and middle income (LAMI) countries and other marginalised communities.

QUOTE:

“Using ‘Picture My Participation’, we hope to gain an accurate understanding of the participation outcomes of children with disabilities in low and middle income countries, and ultimately intervene in ways that will effectively and sustainably address their needs.”

—Project Research Team

FACTS & FIGURES

- About 80% of the world’s persons with disabilities live in the 145 low and middle income countries.
- Pilots of the tool, including feedback from children with disabilities, have been administered on three continents; and there is evidence that the tool can be used in various settings, cultural environments, and countries.
- The tool will be made available to all children with disabilities living in LAMI countries.

PROBLEMS TARGETED

Currently, there is only limited knowledge about the participation outcomes of children and youth living in low and middle-income countries, mostly because of a shortage of tools to measure their participation and the inadequacy of existing ones. Even though many countries are working to improve their health care

services and to give people with disabilities access to them, there is still a lack of data concerning children with disabilities that could be used to improve their situation in LAMI countries.

SOLUTION & METHODOLOGY

“Picture my Participation” uses pictures to identify the frequencies of a child’s participation, for example, through the collection of data on how often someone goes to school, the level of involvement and barriers, as well as factors that facilitate the participation of a child in different contexts. Using simple language – without jargon and technical expressions – the tool allows children to tell their own stories about their level of participation in their homes, their communities, and in educational settings. The pictures, which are used within the process and can be adapted to various cultural contexts, are intended to support discussion and understanding of the assessment, which consists of six steps and takes about 20 minutes to complete.

OUTLOOK & TRANSFERABILITY

In 2015, the application will be refined and piloted and psychometric testing will be completed. The tool, including a learning package, will be fully implemented by the end of 2018 in all 145 LAMI countries in Spanish, Arab, Chinese, English, French, and Russian. Furthermore, global awareness of the rights of children with disabilities will be increased through the provision of strategies to improve participation. Because the application is available online and the tool is largely image based, it can be translated into other languages and used worldwide.

Photo: Yes

Copyright: Claire Willis

CONTACT

Catherine Elliot

Child and Adolescent Health Service

GPO Box D184, Perth

Western Australia 6840

Australia

+ 61 8 9340 8222

catherine.elliott@health.wa.gov.au

<http://www.pmh.health.wa.gov.au/>

Nominated by: Claire Willis, Child and Adolescent Health Service, University of Western Australia

tags: learning difficulties and intellectual disabilities, data, statistic, evaluation, non-formal training/education