



AMERICAN
SPEECH-LANGUAGE-
HEARING
ASSOCIATION

**Ad Hoc Committee on the International
Classification of Functioning, Disability and
Health**

December 2015

Final Report

Candace Vickers, California Baptist University, SLP (Chair)

Tammy Hopper, University of Alberta, SLP

Robert Burkard, University at Buffalo, Audiology (representative from Health Care
Economics Committee)

Travis Threats, Saint Louis University, SLP

Holly Wise, Medical University of South Carolina, Physical Therapist

Mary Hildebrand, Massachusetts General Hospital, Occupational Therapist

Sharynne McLeod, Charles Sturt University, Australia, International Member, SLP

Jean Pierre Gagne, University of Montreal, Canada, International Member,
Audiology

Donna Smiley, VP for Audiology Practice, BOD liaison

Sandra Gillam, VP for SLP Practice, BOD liaison

Janet Brown, Ex Officio

**Report to ASHA Board
Candace Vickers, Chair**

2015 Annual Report

Ad Hoc Committee on the ICF

Charge: The committee was charged with (a) applying the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) framework to goal setting and outcomes measurement and (b) helping members focus on function by advising, providing input, reviewing, and promoting through the products and activities listed under the Activities section below.

Committee Members: The committee was composed of the following persons who fit the criteria below.

Members: Four (4) at-large audiologist and/or speech-language pathologist members familiar with the application of the ICF to clinical documentation, to include a chair who provides clinical services and a representative from the Health Care Economics Committee. The following persons served the committee, and all but one attended the in- person meeting at ASHA’s National Office in Rockville.

- Donna Smiley, Vice President for Audiology Practice, Board of Directors (BOD) liaison
- Sandra Gillam, Vice President for Speech-Language Pathology Practice, BOD liaison
- Candace Vickers, California Baptist University, SLP (Chair)
- Tammy Hopper, University of Alberta, SLP
- Robert Burkard, University at Buffalo, Audiology (representative from Health Care Economics Committee)
- Travis Threats, Saint Louis University, SLP
- One (1) physical therapist – Holly Wise, Medical University of South Carolina
- One (1) occupational therapist – Mary Hildebrand, Massachusetts General Hospital
- Two (2) international audiologists and/or speech-language pathologists
 - Sharynne McLeod, Charles Sturt University, Australia, International Member, SLP
 - Jean Pierre Gagne, University of Montreal, Canada, International Member, Audiology
- Janet Brown, Ex Officio

Committee Meetings

- The whole committee spoke together during a planned conference call in January 2015 to set and finalize its agenda for the February 2015 meeting.
- A 2½-day meeting was held at the ASHA National Office February 6–8. See notes on this meeting below.
- An additional conference call occurred in December 2015 to discuss the three recorded ASHA webinars. Webinars were recorded December 14, 17, and 18. See the Activities section below.
- The committee collaborated via e-mail to finalize edits for the new ICF handouts and to share other ICF-related resources.

Activities in 2015 and Progress to Date

- Develop modules to educate members on the use of the ICF framework to develop functional treatment goals and determine outcomes.
 - **Status:** As of December 18, 2015, there are four new recorded PowerPoint webinars from committee members that will be posted to the ASHA ICF website. Presenters include Travis Threats, Mary Hildebrand, Holly Wise, and Candace Vickers. Travis Threats recorded a webinar titled “Overview of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF),” which provided an introduction to the ICF. Three narrated PowerPoint webinars were recorded by committee members Mary Hildebrand (OT), Holly Wise (PT), and Candace Vickers (SLP). The title of each webinar was “Interprofessional Collaborative Practice and Person-Centered Care Using the ICF Framework.” Each clinician’s presentation dealt with the case of Mr. W, a survivor of a left-hemisphere stroke, and provided a perspective that included the ICF framework and application of interprofessional collaborative practice.

- Develop standard templates and examples of functional goals using the ICF framework.
 - **Status:** Expanded the number of “Focus on Function” ICF handouts. Prior to the convening of the committee, several handouts (all titled “Focus on Function”) had been created to help members use the ICF. During the committee’s time together, the following additional Focus on Function ICF handouts were created by members of the committee working in dyads or small groups. Each group worked on a specific case study for one of the following disorders: tinnitus management, severe hearing loss and falls, permanent childhood hearing loss, speech sound disorders, and specific language impairment. All are posted on the ASHA ICF web page at <http://www.asha.org/slp/icf/>.
 - **Status:** ASHA Live Chat hosted by Candace Vickers and Tammy Hopper. The chat was titled “Meaningful, Functional Goals for Patients With Aphasia and Dementia” and was invited by ASHA Special Interest Group 2 (SIG 2). It was held on August 19, 2015, with 150 participants. The use of the ICF was integrated specifically into this webinar.

- Promote use of the ICF framework among members as the standard, acceptable practice in the treatment of communication and swallowing disorders.
 - **Status:** Two committee members (Candace Vickers and Tammy Hopper) gave a 1-hour seminar at the 2015 ASHA Convention in Denver; in this seminar, the speakers directly dealt with promoting use of the ICF framework to members. The full information for this seminar is listed in the reference citation below.
 - Vickers, C., & Hopper, T. (2015, November 14). *Integrating the ICF into graduate education: Training students to provide person-centered care*. Presentation at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Annual Convention, Denver, Colorado.
 - **Status:** An article was published in the October 2015 issue of *The ASHA Leader*, as follows:
 - Brown, J., & Vickers, C. (2015, October). Are life-participation goals reimbursable? *The ASHA Leader*, 20, 36–38. Retrieved from <http://leader.pubs.asha.org/article.aspx?articleid=2449240>

Summary of ASHA Ad Hoc Committee on the ICF Meeting at ASHA (February 6–8).

- *Friday, February 6:* Discussion of ASHA’s Strategic Pathway and Envisioned Future; international applications of ICF (Sharynne MacLeod), with discussion of implications for ASHA members; review of ASHA ICF web page and resources; and formation of breakout groups for working on Focus on Function handouts. On this day, the committee decided that the term *person-centered care* best embodied the approach being advocated through the ICF handouts and that this term should be included on those handouts.
- *Saturday, February 7:* Small groups continued their work on ICF handouts, presentation on physical therapy and occupational therapy connections to ICF from Mary Hildebrand and Holly Wise, discussion of academic teaching of ICF/infusion into curriculum. Discussion of how ICF-CY can benefit schools based practice.
- *Sunday, February 8:* The committee brainstormed on all of the information that could possibly be included on an ASHA web page about the ICF. Vickers and Hopper committed to submitting an abstract to the ASHA convention regarding integration of the ICF into graduate education. A suggestion was made for narrated PowerPoint slides that would demonstrate how cases could be approached by incorporating each aspect of the ICF framework. The committee conducted a review of specific assignments for ICF committee members in terms of ASHA Convention, ICF-related publications by ASHA, and recorded webinars for the ASHA website, as well as continued development and finalization of ICF handouts.

Future Plans: The time allotted for this committee was 1 year, and the activities of the committee officially ended December 31, 2015. Although the committee’s official role has ended, continuing collaborations in terms of presentations and possible publications will likely occur among committee members.