

ISWP Evidence-based Practice Working Group  
**Comparative Effectiveness Research Subcommittee**  
**January 14, 2016 Conference Call**

The ISWP Evidence-based Practice Working Group – Comparative Effectiveness Research Subcommittee – met by conference call on Thursday, January 14, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. U. S. Eastern Time. Participants’ list follows. This provides a recap. Subcommittee members with action items are shown in bold/underline.

Link to meeting recording: <https://iswp.adobeconnect.com/p5wqf8ntqf2/>

**Next call: Thursday, February 4, 2016, 10:00 a.m. U.S. Eastern Time.**

1. ***Subcommittee Terms of Reference and Goals:*** Group will evaluate existing literature, define effectiveness and develop a comparative research proposal considering the user, the clinician and the industry.
2. ***Effectiveness definition:*** **Deepan Kamaraj** to send note to subcommittee with instructions and additional information for completing a Google document to help define effectiveness.  
**Subcommittee members** to:
  - a. Provide their definition of effectiveness from three perspectives: Clinician, Individual and Industry.
  - b. Identify who could assess the effectiveness (clinician, user or tested objectively).
  - c. Indicate any relevant outcome measures for each type of effectiveness.
  - d. Link to document on Google drive:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1SjamUG5JVCDzcFBQOvO0WnQeTNELbCHfz0G6KpglZm8/edit-gid=0>.
3. ***Areas of interest:*** Group agreed:
  - Focus would be on manual and power wheelchairs, not prosthetics, orthotics or other assistive technology.
  - Effectiveness measurement needs to be simple.



- A broader population should be considered, which would facilitate recruiting and more generalizable results.
  - Research currently under way in less-resourced settings could be considered.
  - Training as it relates to user and clinician effectiveness and measuring mobility should be considered. There is an opportunity to tie the subcommittee's efforts with the ISWP Training Working Group; e.g., understanding if/how the Training Working Group is measuring training effectiveness. **Nancy Augustine/Deepan Kamaraj** to follow up with Mary Goldberg, ISWP education lead.
4. ***Related research projects:***
- a. Karen Rispin is comparing two different wheelchair models in Kenya. **Karen Rispin** to provide information about the studies.
  - b. Deepan is working on a driving assessment tool for power wheelchairs by capturing information from within the chair, incorporating the metrics into a virtual reality environment and developing virtual reality wheelchair training in the U.S.
  - c. Johan recently provided input on a soon-to-be published scoping review manuscript from the University of Washington in Seattle.  
  
Following the December 4 and January 14 calls, Johan provided documents related to previously conducted outcome measures studies. The documents are filed on the ISWP Google Drive, Comparative Research Subcommittee folder, available through this link: <https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B96jRy5C8-f7d052cmI3MkpNN0U&usp=sharing/>
  - d. Nathan has applied for a fellowship to develop mobility-specific quality of life outcome measures for use in health economics. He also is working with an NHS hospital in the U.K. to develop patient-centered outcome measures for pediatric wheelchair services.
5. ***Data fields for country/region-specific data project:*** Subcommittee suggested country data project gather information on outcome measures worldwide. Data that would be valuable include: Researcher name, outcome measure type, brief study description, population and geography. Karen mentioned Elizabeth Conde (spelling?) did a large literature review and an outcome measures study for P&O in 2005. Deepan said there is an open-access database of outcome measures called the Rehabilitation Measures Database, <http://www.rehabmeasures.org/default.aspx>.
6. ***Working Group funding proposal:*** Group agreed it would be worthwhile to hold an in-person meeting and will be submitting a funding proposal for a meeting in conjunction with European Seating Symposium (ESS), Dublin, Ireland, June 13 – 15, 2016. **Nancy Augustine** to help Nathan Bray prepare the application, which is due February 19, 2016.

**Participants:**

- ✓ Johan Borg, Lund University
- ✓ Nathan Bray, Centre for Health Economics and Medicines Evaluation, Bangor Univ.  
Kavi Bhalla, Johns Hopkins University  
Padmaja Kankipati, SMOI
- ✓ Karen Rispin, LeTourneau University
- ✓ Deepan Kamaraj, University of Pittsburgh  
Rich Schein, University of Pittsburgh
- ✓ Nancy Augustine, University of Pittsburgh

Prepared by: Nancy Augustine