

ISWP Testing Subcommittee

July 8, 2015 Meeting Recap

The ISWP Testing Subcommittee met via Adobe Connect on Wednesday, July 8, 2015 in from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. EST. This provides a recap.

Link to Meeting Recording: <https://iswp.adobeconnect.com/p6odo8t4a2e/>

Next Meeting: To be determined

Discussion:

1. Skills Assessment Structure

Celia agreed with the group's previous conclusion that video submissions would not be sensible. She also agreed the case studies were a good option.

The group agreed that case studies would be the only means of assessing skills. The idea of presenting cases and asking questions could not be easily adapted to different contexts.

The group agreed at least 2 case studies should be submitted and that administration methods need to be flexible. The group discussed Whatsapp and email as possible submission platforms, with in-person evaluation in extreme cases.

The group also discussed whether or not a candidate would need mentor approval to submit case studies for the skills assessment. No final decision was made.

The group agreed that Privacy Guidelines (including consent forms, options for hiding the wheelchair user's face, and immediate image deletion following confirmation of receipt of documentation submitted via phone) would be an essential part of the candidate guidelines.

Regarding timing of the skills assessment after training, Abdullah suggested 3 months would be a good minimum. Elsje mentioned that between the end of training and taking the assessment, mentoring would be very important but does not fall under the scope of the assessment itself. The Testing SC will not be prescriptive about mentoring practices, but might make suggestions. Intermediate level seating covers a wide scope of deviations and combinations of deviations and practice and mentoring is needed to become well skilled and experienced. Elsje included that the subcommittee does not want to delay candidates from taking the test, but also does not want candidates to apply too soon either



until such time that they are adequately competent.

Elsje suggested that candidates must wait 60 days before resubmitting a skills assessment. This was a compromise between her original 90 days and the 30 day allotment for re-taking the Basic Test. Adequate time will be needed to find appropriate case studies for submission and also gain further experience.

2. Scoring of Skills Assessment

Elsje posed this aspect of the skills assessment for the next discussion.

Jamie stated that, in his experience, candidates had trouble understanding what he was asking of them. He said that questions asking, “what was tough about this” were difficult to address, especially since they are trying to appear as a competent candidate. Elsje mentioned that pilot testing will be essential to working out these flaws and shortcomings. Elsje emphasized that little additional writing other than the standard services forms should be requested as part of the submission. Examples of additional information requested may include things like range of available wheelchairs to choose from and motivating the final wheelchair choice. The case study submission template should be the standard WSTP I assessment and prescription forms, with space for photographs and the few additional questions.

Elsje asked the group if it would be allowed that the evaluator asked a candidate and/or their mentor to provide further information. Jamie stated that it would be ideal. Elsje stated that it should be allowed within given guidelines.

Action Items

Jamie and Elsje will provide examples of case studies and skills testing. Elsje emphasized that the case studies she submitted was for mentoring purposes and did not have a scoring system, but that that committee members should look at the comments and feedback to the participant to assist in drawing up the rubric. The assessment must assess the steps of the assessment, prescription, fitting and clinical reasoning and the final outcome must demonstrate that the most appropriate wheelchair has been provided to provide optimal posture support, function and safety to the user. Rachel will be sending these to subcommittee members.

ISWP Staff will draft another outline for the skills assessment for the subcommittee to review, based on subcommittee discussions and case study examples. Elsje also requested committee members to independently list key assessment points based on these documents to compare with this draft skills assessment to ensure that all aspects are fully covered.



Rachel will send out a doodle poll for members to indicate their availability for the next meeting. The time should be more favorable for Ritu to attend as well.

For next meeting

Discuss template for case study submission, rubric, and plan for budget for developing and piloting these.

Participants (name, company)

- ✓ Elsje Scheffler, DARE Consult
- ✓ Abdullah Munish, Motivation Africa
- ✓ Celia Stubbs, Motivation UK
- ✓ Jamie Noon, Independent Consultant
- ✓ Ritu Ghosh, Mobility India
- ✓ Rachel Gartz, University of Pittsburgh
- ✓ Mary Goldberg, University of Pittsburgh

Prepared by: Rachel Gartz, University of Pittsburgh

