

EDGE Taskforce Meeting
June 13, 2008
Minutes

Members attending: Alan Jette, Pam Levangie, Barb Norton, Shirley Sahrman, Dave Scalzetti
Chair: Edee Field-Fote

■ = action items

I. Feedback from *Learning from Babel* session.

Edee gave a synopsis of the session at CSM. The session was very well attended and there was a considerable amount of positive feedback. Barb pointed out that the time for exchange with the attendees was shorter than had been planned.

II. Developing an outcomes instrument rating scale

The members agreed that the development of guidelines for rating outcome measures would be a reasonable next project for the taskforce to undertake. Edee proposed that the taskforce members develop a hierarchy similar to the Sackett's levels of evidence

A. Existing guidelines

The members discussed efforts at standardization that have been undertaken by other organizations. Alan noted that guidelines have been formulated by the National Health Quality Forum and that a rheumatology group has been working on a similar process (OMART?). There are also efforts underway by the ASIA for spinal cord injury functional measures. Alan said that he would try to get the OMART guidelines, Edee will find those by ASIA and the National Health Quality Forum. All members agreed to search for guidelines that have been developed by additional outside groups.

There was some discussion about the differences between outcome instruments developed for assessment of aggregate data versus for assessing change in individual. However, the members agreed that many instruments in common clinical use (e.g., the Oswestry, the SF-36) fall into the former category.

III. Identifying individuals/groups to for the instrument assessment process

The members agreed that that our original plans to entrust the selection of measures to the Component Research Chairs is probably misguided. Pam pointed out that many are only just learning about their roles, and their tasks are often centered on reviewing abstract submissions for CSM. There had been discussion at the last meeting that that the component Practice Chairs might be a more appropriate target, as their role centers around issues related to practice. However, in many Sections the Practice Chairs are committed to long-term projects

The interest in the issue of standardization of outcome measures among APTA member has been apparent both in the attendance at the *Babel* session and from individuals who have expressed interest in the EDGE taskforce activities. For this reason the members agreed that the best approach may be to contact the Sections and allow members to self-select their involvement based on interest. Members of the EDGE taskforce will be assigned to a section as a mentor.

The members agreed that it would be preferable to begin the process with the Orthopedic and the Neurology Sections, Pam and Edee will serve as the respective contacts.

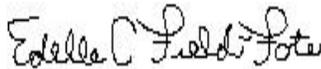
Question: would there be benefit to involving an individual from the Ortho and Neuro sections in the guideline development process (item II?)

IV. Matters arising

Dave was asked whether there were any efforts underway to update the Guide's *Catalog of Tests and Measures*. He indicated that the intent was to reduce the long list of references (for example, by eliminating those that referred to the reliability of the test in a language other than English)

Dave also gave an update on efforts to merge/share some features of the HOE and the PEDRO databases.

Respectfully submitted,



Edelle C. Field-Fote
Chair, EDGE Taskforce