



Newsletter

Edition 65 | 27th March 2023

Editor's Note

Welcome to the first instalment of the HMinfo Newsletter for 2023.

In this newsletter, we introduce five new HMinfo videos and the recent HMinfo research publications and inform you about the main events for the coming period.

NEW HMinfo RESOURCES

Video: About the Home Modification Information Clearinghouse

This video introduces the Home Modification Information Clearinghouse (HMinfo) and describes its activities and how they relate to supporting people with disability, older people and their carers.

[Watch this video on the HMinfo website](#)



Video: Arranging Home Modifications

This video outlines what home modifications are, why they are beneficial and how you can arrange them for yourself or someone in your care. It also touches on frequently raised concerns, such as obtaining funding via available subsidies.

[Watch this video on the HMinfo website](#)



Video: Assistive Technology - Home Automations

Many of us find it challenging to complete activities necessary for our well-being and comfort in the home, such as turning the air-conditioner and lights on/off without assistance.

This short video summarises how home automations or "smart" home controls can help us control our home environment easily.

[Watch this video on the HMinfo website](#)



Video: Home Lighting

This video provides tips on how to increase the lighting in your home and make your daily tasks easier to perform.



[Watch this video on the HMinfo website](#)

Video: Fire Safety - Escape

This video advises on how to protect yourself and your family from home fires and links to resources that can assist you with preparing a home Escape Plan.



[Watch this video on the HMinfo website](#)

RECENT HMinfo RESOURCES

Evidence-Based Practice review: The quality and usability of selected evaluation and outcome measures in home-based occupational therapy for children and young people with physical disabilities: extended findings from a systematic review

Background: This investigation critically appraises selected measures from a previous systematic review and links these with occupational therapy in the home.

Objectives: To identify, describe and determine the quality of selected evaluation and outcome measures applicable to occupational therapy in the home for children and young people with predominantly physical disabilities, and to provide qualified guidance for occupational therapists in selecting high-quality measures for best practice.

Search Methods: Searches for each named measure were conducted in PubMed, COSMIN Database of Systematic Reviews of Outcome Measurement Instruments, Google Scholar, measure-specific webpages, and other on-line sources.

Data Collection and Analysis: Data collection for selected measures used a modified Law and MacDermid's 'Appraisal for Clinical Measurement Research Reports Evaluation' approach. This method includes critically appraisal of both psychometric and clinimetric properties, particularly usability and responsiveness to change, to determine the quality of the evidence. The 'Quality Appraisal for Clinical Measurement Research Reports Evaluation' was used to grade the design of single



studies including excellent, adequate and unsuitable and 'A Measurement Tool to Assess Systematic Reviews' for systematic reviews.

Results: Twenty-two eligible primary evaluation and outcome measures were selected and appraised for quality in the areas of - Activities for self-care and functional mobility; Participation - household tasks, and physical environment; Occupational Performance; Neuromuscular and Movement-related Functions, and Disability and Development.

Measures with an excellent rating of quality and usability were the Child and Adolescent Scale of Participation; Canadian Occupational Performance Measure; Goal Attainment Scaling; Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory-Computer Adaptive Test; Participation and Environment Measure for Children and Youth.

Measures with an adequate rating were the Assisting Hand Assessment - Kids; Assisting Hand Assessment - Mini; Activities Scale for Kids ©; Children's Assessment of Participation and Enjoyment; Child and Adolescent Factors Inventory; Child and Adolescent Scale of Environment; ; Children Helping Out: Responsibilities, Expectations, and Supports; European Child Environment Questionnaire; School, Home and Neighbourhood Accessibility: Physically Disabled Children's Assessments; Young Children's Participation and Environment Measure.

Measures with an unsuitable rating were the Box and Blocks Test, Bruininks-Oseretsky Test of Motor Proficiency; Bayley Scales of Infant and Toddler Development; Infant Motor Profile; Peabody Developmental Motor Scales; Quality of Upper Extremity Skills Test.

Author's Conclusions: The most useful measures are those that combine the evaluation of the client's occupational performance within the home environment and focus on the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework. The usability of measures needs to be considered in addition to validity, particularly responsiveness and reliability.

[Download this resource from the HMinfo website](#)

EVENTS

Supporting carers through the aged care reforms: For CHSP providers

The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety made a series of recommendations to transform the Australian aged care system. This includes the Commonwealth Home Support Programme, Short Term Restorative Care Programme and the Home Care Package program merging into the new Support at Home Program from July 2024. The changes will mean that all older people and their carers will access services and supports from the same, single program from that time on.

The Support at Home Program aims to improve support for family and friend carers through the new assessment process and increased integration between My Aged

Care and Carer Gateway. Carer Gateway will play an increased role in booking respite services in advance for carers of people who are ageing.

Please join Carers NSW for a 60-minute information session to understand the challenges carers face, the increasing role of Carer Gateway and how you can support carers through the aged care reforms.

Sessions are delivered online via the ZOOM platform and are free to attend.

[Link](#)

Nepean Expo March 31-April 1

The Nepean Disability Expo brings together a wide range of products and services to help people live their best life, including government and advocacy organisation, aids and equipment providers, financial and legal services, education, training and employment providers, social and leisure options, transport and vehicles, health and medical products and services, allied health professionals and support services, including in-home care providers

The expo will also feature a range of informative and interactive presentations delivered by industry experts, all-abilities adult and children's entertainment, and food vendors.

Jump the entry queues by registering your attendance for the free Disability Expo on Friday and Saturday, 31 March and 1 April 2023 at the Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre. Get organised with the Expo Guide that will give you the lowdown on parking, exhibitors, floor plan, and the stage and entertainment schedule.

[Link](#)

Home Care Packages program inclusions and exclusions

The Department of Health is hosting a webinar for Home Care Packages (HCP) providers on **Tuesday 4 April at 2pm-3pm AEST** to explain what is included and excluded under the HCP Program.

On 13 January 2023, the department published updates to the [HCP Program Provider Manual](#) to clarify inclusions and exclusions.

We have heard your questions and concerns about the manual updates and this webinar will answer common questions.

You will have an opportunity to submit questions during the webinar. If you cannot attend, the webinar will be recorded and made available on the [department's webinar page](#) following the event.

[Link](#)

Any suggestions or feedback you may have on our newsletter would be greatly appreciated, so please feel free to contact us at hminfo@unsw.edu.au. To unsubscribe from future HMinfo newsletters, please click [unsubscribe](#).



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