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**MEETING OF WHO COLLABORATING CENTRES
FOR THE FAMILY OF INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATIONS**

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Title: ICF and social disability insurance

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Purpose: information and discussion

Recommendations:



Abstract: (no more than 200 words)

According to social disability insurance people with disabilities can be compensated for a loss of earning provided they meet certain criteria on their health status. The concept of disability is vital to the social rights people have. The definitions and criteria in the different schemes appear to vary largely between countries. Operationalisations however, tend to concentrate on three concepts.

There also often seems to be a gap between the legal criteria and the daily practice. This seems to be a matter of difference in language between policy makers and assessors but also a matter of bureaucratic organisation.

In a comparative research in 15 countries criteria and practices were compared. ICF provides a useful grid to develop a common language for aspects of disability evaluation. This goes especially for impairments, disabilities and participation but not on the determination of normal functioning or on rehabilitation. The aspects of personal factors and environmental factors are ruled out of decisionmaking in social insurance. The common ground between criteria and ICF will be demonstrated in the lecture and also the problems that exist on the definition of normal functioning.

In a small working group, on behalf of EUMASS (the European association for doctors, dentists and other health-care professionals with involvement in Disability Assessment Medicine and Healthcare Cost-control) we are trying to work out comparable cases descriptions in ICF-terms and codes. In the lecture some aspects of this approach and the difficulties with it will be presented.

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