

International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health in Portuguese Educational System

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Dynamic Assessment of Functioning and Oriented at Development and Inclusive Learning

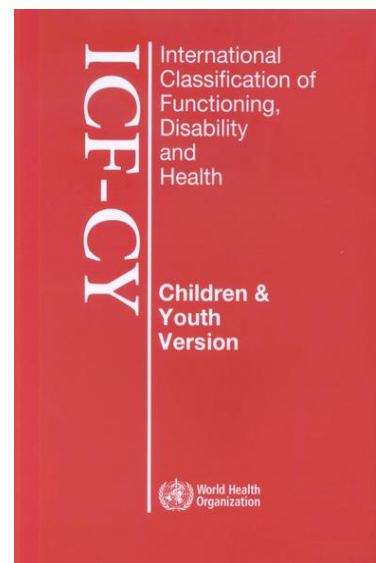
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ICF – International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health

ICF – CY (Children and Youth)



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ICF in Portuguese Educational System

- ✓ The need for a classification system able to clearly and reliably identify children who, indeed, need specialized assistance, it was a need felt for a long time.
- ✓ In 2005, in Portugal, one in sixteen students had special educational measures (and it had a tendency to increase).
- ✓ ICF appears referenced in the field of the portuguese education in the Decree-Law n^o. 3/2008 of January 7th.
- ✓ ICF becomes an indispensable element in the identification of students that need to be supported by specialized education.



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ICF in Portuguese Educational System

✓ Children eligible for special education:

“students with significant limitations in terms of activity and participation in one or more areas of life, due to permanent functional and structural changes, resulting in continued difficulties in communication, learning, mobility, autonomy of interpersonal relationships and social participation.”

Decree-Law nº 3/2008



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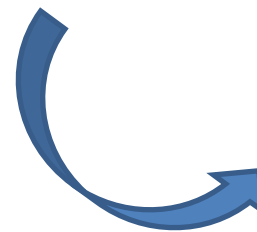
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Implementation of ICF - CY in specialized assessment

✓ **Goal:**

- . Identify the functioning profile of the student
- . Identify barriers and facilitators



**In order to define
the appropriate
educational
responses**



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Implementation of ICF - CY in specialized assessment

- ✓ The whole assessment/intervention process starts with the referral procedure through the **Referral Form**.



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Implementation of ICF - CY in specialized assessment

✓ Constitution of multidisciplinary teams:

. Teams should be constituted from the specific needs of each child/young person will be assessed:

- carers
- special education teachers
- psychologists
- regular education teachers
- social workers
- therapists
- specialized resource centers
- health services




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Implementation of ICF - CY in specialized assessment

✓ **Team meetings:**

- individual preparation of the team meeting 
- planning together
- collection of relevant information
- analysis of all gathered information
- decision-making



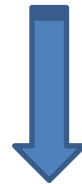
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Planning the assessment process (information collection by reference to the ICF-CY)

✓ What to assess?

- . Functioning and disability components
- . Contextual Factors



The interactions between them.



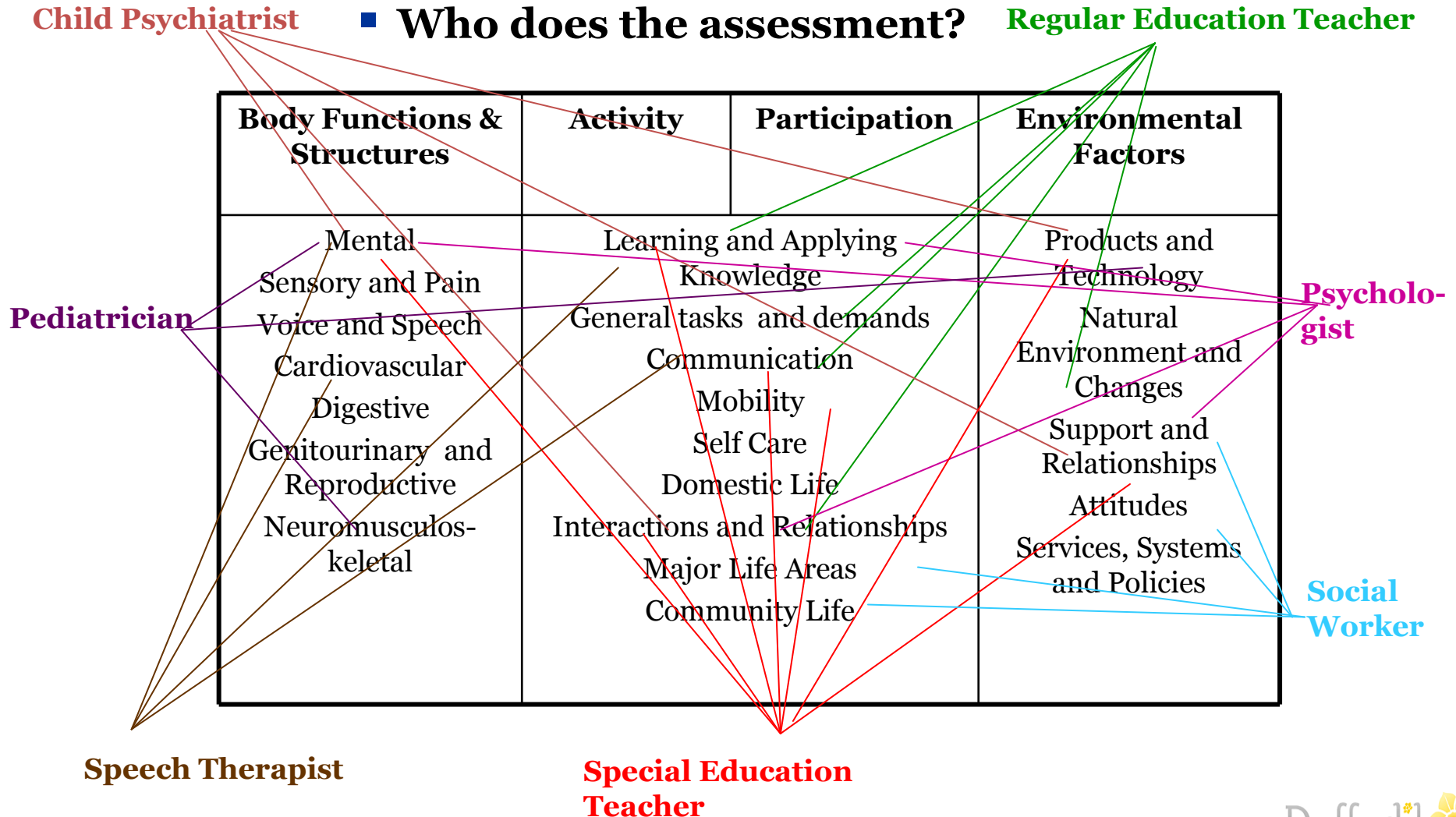
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Planning the assessment process

(information collection by reference to the ICF-CY)

Who does the assessment?



Assessment process planning (information collection by reference to the ICF - CY)

✓ How to assess?

Tools:

- . Behaviours checklists
- . Scales
- . Observation grids
- . Interviews
- . Questionnaires
- . Tests
- . Students works
- . (...)

✓ What sources of information?

- . students
- . teachers
- . parents
- . documents
- . (...)



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Assessment process planning (information collection by reference to the ICF - CY)

✓ **Assessment roadmap**

(it allows to plan and to schedule the entire process)

- Student's Identification
- Description of the student's situation
- Selection of ICF categories to assess
- Selection of tools
- Person accountable for data collecting
- Calendar organization



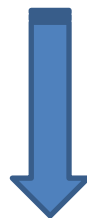
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Information Analysis

- ✓ **Ckecklist** – allocation of qualifiers for each of the selected categories



Functioning Profile



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Assessment Results

- **Technical Pedagogical Report**



- **Individual Educational Program**



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Referral procedure

The referral may be made by parents, teachers or services with a "Referral Form" made to the Director of the school.

Assessment

The Special Education Teacher(s) and the Psychology and Guidance Department, analyze the situation, define the need of a specialist assessment and, when justified, begin the assessment process by reference to the ICF-CY

The child doesn't need a specialized assessment

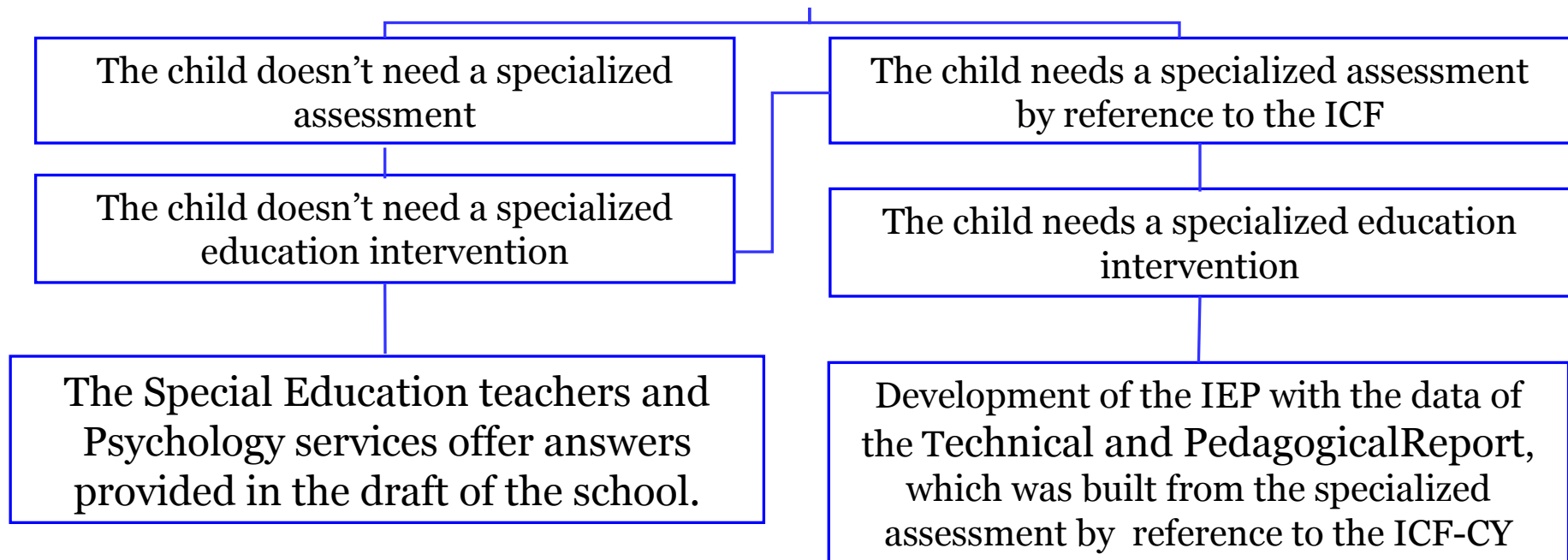
The child doesn't need a specialized education intervention

The Special Education teachers and Psychology services offer answers provided in the draft of the school.

The child needs a specialized assessment by reference to the ICF

The child needs a specialized education intervention

Development of the IEP with the data of the Technical and Pedagogical Report, which was built from the specialized assessment by reference to the ICF-CY



Reflections on the implementation experience of ICF in Portugal– a study

✓ Advantages

- All aspects of a person's life (development, participation, and environment) are incorporated into the ICF instead of solely focusing on his or her diagnosis;
- Its applicability to different fields (education, health, social security, employment, ...) will provide unified and standardized language that will work in multidisciplinary teams – but in Portugal, where it has only been applied to education, this led to a professionals embarrassment in different fields, because it lacks a "common language";



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Reflections on the implementation experience of ICF in Portugal– a study

✓ Advantages

- The application of the ICF involves the team work, where all contributions are considered important to a comprehensive assessment of the child's needs - Decision-making will be the responsibility of a team and not a single person;



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Reflections on the implementation experience of ICF in Portugal– a study

✓ Advantages

- It allowed the creation of instruments that help to systematize the assessment process – example: “Assessment Roadmap” which defines what needs to be assessed (at different components of the ICF), who will assess the different categories and how they will be assessed (information sources and tools to use).
- This instrument has the advantage of empowering all actors in the process, clarifying the role of each one.



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Reflections on the implementation experience of ICF in Portugal– a study

✓ Constraints

- Inadequate training of professionals on the ground;
- The lack of an official Portuguese version of the ICF-CY (children and youth version);



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Reflections on the implementation experience of ICF in Portugal– a study

✓ **Constraints**

- As the model is not applied (yet) to other areas such as health, one of the advantages of ICF (standardizing language) becomes a barrier;
- The greatest difficulties of the ICF use can be found in the absence of a reliable set of instruments (with the aim to assess the different body functions and activity and participation level) and absence of strict criteria to establish the limitation degree.



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Reflections on the implementation experience of ICF in Portugal– a study

✓ Most urgent needs

- Training in assessment
- Training in assessment by reference to the ICF
- Development of assessment tools and compilation of existing instruments;
- Teachers and other experts training in the field of teamwork and time management, because this new model requires new strategies of work.



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Project to evaluate implementatin of the ICF in the Decree-Law nº 3/2008

- ✓ The multidisciplinary teams are focused on the functional characteristics rather than the disabilities of the students.
- ✓ There is a purposeful look about environmental factors, however there is still a low identification of barriers.
- ✓ Specialized assessment has involved the use of diversified sources of information and the use of informal methods of assessment according the biopsychosocial model.

http://sitio.dgdc.min-edu.pt/PressReleases/Paginas/ApresentacaoPublicaResultadosDL3_2008.aspx



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Assessment process planning (information collection by reference to the ICF - CY)

Practical Exercise



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Lifelong Learning Programme

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Assessment process planning (information collection by reference to the ICF - CY)

Practical Exercise

- Assessment roadmap 
- Checklist 
- Technical-Pedagogical Report 



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