

# Learning Objective

 Apply appropriate Outcome Assessment Measures in the evaluation and treatment of traumatic / atraumatic neuromusculoskeletal injuries / disorders

#### 1. Etiology of Complaint

- a. Onset, Severity, frequency, duration
- 2. Health History
- 3. Current Subjective Complaints
- 4. Current Objective Clinical Findings
- 5. Diagnosis
- 6. Treatment Plan
- 7. Measurements of Patient Improvement

Medical Necessity

#### Era of Outcome Assessment

 "Outcomes in clinical practice provide the mechanism by which the health care provider (HCP), the patient, the public, and the payer are able to assess the end results of care and its effect upon the health of the patient and society."
 <u>Sytemans, The Clinical Agelication of</u>



### Subjective vs. Objective

 "What matters most to patients and payers is the change in functional health status (e.g., quality of life, ADL, return to work, and economic efficiency)
 S. Yoomans. The Clinical Application of Outcome Assessment. p. 11, 2000)



#### **Outcomes Criteria**

- Utility: Is it Useful?
- Reliability: Is it dependable?
- · Validity: Does it do what it is supposed to do?
- Sensitivity: Can it identify patients with a condition?
- Specificity: Can it identify those that do not have the condition?
- Responsiveness: Can it measure differences
   over time?



- 1. Utilize subjective / objective tools.
- 2. Score the tools at the initial visit to establish baseline measures.
- 3. Repeat the instrument after 2-4 week intervals to track the effects of treatment changes.
- 4. Base clinical decisions on the outcome results.

4 Steps to Become Outcome Based

#### Individual Outcome Measures: Assess every 2-4 weeks

- HCP Driven (Objective)

- Observation
   Observation
   ROM & Flexibility Tests
   Palpation Findings
   Neurological Findings
   Strength & Endurance Tests
   Functional Capacity Evaluations

- Patient Driven (Subjective)
   Functional Outcome Questionnaires
   Neck Disability Index, Revised Oswestry, Functional Rating Index, Headache Disability Index, etc...
   Pain Scales
   Pain Drawings
   Psychometric



### Subjective Questionnaires

- Subjective outcome assessment information is gathered by the patient in self-administered questionnaires and scored by either the:
- Health Care Provider
- Staff Members
- Computer



#### Subjective Questionnaires

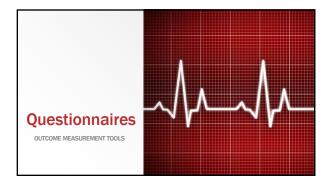


#### In spite of the definition associated with the term "subjective", these "pen-andpaper tools" have been described as very Valid and Reliable – in many cases more so than many of the "objective" tests that HCPs have relied upon for years.

 Chapman-Smith (1992); Hansen (1994); Mootz (1994)

# Subjective vs. Objective

 "It must be emphasized that although the term "subjective" carries negative connotations, the reliability / validity data published regarding these methods of collecting outcomes is exceptional, typically out-performing the testretest reliability and validity of most "objective" physical performance tests (chapman-Smith 1992)."



#### General Health Questionnaires (GHQ)

 May benefit from the use of a GHQ because it is not condition-specific and, therefore, can be applied to virtually any Complaint (vermas Sc The clinical Application of Outcomes Assessment, Stamford Connection, Appleton & Lange. 2000)



# Application of General Health Questionnaires (GHQ)

- Initial Presentation
- Baseline
   Identify Problem(s) for Management
- Regular Intervals
- Plateau / Discharge
- Six Months after Discharge
   Evaluate Long Term Benefits

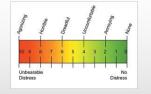


### **Condition-Specific Outcomes**

- Over 40 low back functional questionnaires exist with 5 identified as "Gold Standard"
- Sickness Impact Profile (Bergner et al, 1981)
- Roland-Morris Disability
   Questionnaire (Roland and Morris, 1983)
- Oswestry Low Back Pain
   Disability Questionnaire (Fairbank et
   al, 1980)
- Million Visual Analogue Scale
   (Million et al. 1982)
- Waddell Disability Index (Waddell, 1984)

#### Pain Perception

- Visual Analogue Scales
- Reliable and Valid (Jensen and Karoly, 1993)
- Advantages over other measurement methods (Scott and Huskisson, 1976; Price et al, 1994).



# Quadruple Visual Analogue Scale (QVAS)

- Four Specific Factors
- Current Pain Level
- Average or Typical Pain Level
- Pain Level at its Best

### **QVAS Form** QUARTER VISIO AVALOGIT SCALE

- Pain Level at its Worst

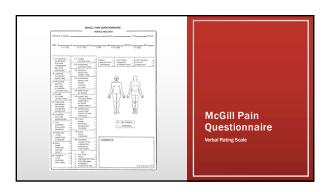
Final Score = Average x 10
 Range 0-100

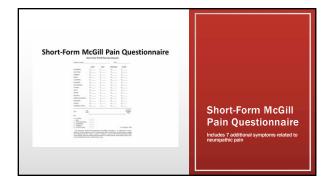
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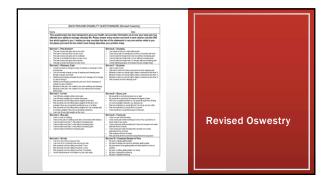
Von Korff et al, 1992

#### Wong-Baker Scale PAIN ASSESSMENT TOOL 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Mild Moderate Severe Very Severe Worst Pain Possible 0 No Pain **9** ٩ 25 10.00 00 ..... 7-9 10 1-3 4-6 0

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#### **Revised Oswestry**

- Test has been around for 25 years and is considered the "Gold Standard" of low back functional outcome tools.
- Extremely important tool that researchers and disability evaluators use to measure a patient's permanent functional disability.
- One of the principal conditionspecific outcome measures used in the management of spinal disorders.



# Why Revised Oswestry?

#### - Retitled Section 8

- Now identified as "Social Life"
  Originally entitled "Sex Life" and was left blank quite often by patients.
- In the revised version, all ten sections are completed more often than in the original version.



 Hudson-Cook N, Tomes-Nicholson K, Breen AC. A Revised Oswestry Back Disability Questionnaire. Manchester Univ Press, 1989

### **Oswestry: Score Interpretation**

- 0%-20% = Minimal Disability
- 20%-40% = Moderate Disability
- 40%-60% = Severe Disability
- 60%-80% = Crippled
- 80%-100% = Bedridden

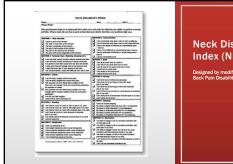
 Fairbank JC, Pynsent PB. "The Oswestry Disability Index". Spine 2000;25(22):2940-2952



### **Revised Oswestry: Best Practice**

# Baseline

- Reassess every 2-4 weeks 5 point change required to be minimally clinically significant or meaningful.
- Provider should avoid "treating to zero" as it is not clinically supportable.
- According to Erhard et al (1994), a score of 11% may be used as an appropriate cut-off score for HCP to consider for Discharge or RTW in uncomplicated LBP.



# **Neck Disability** Index (NDI)

Designed by modifying the Oswestry Low Back Pain Disability Questionnaire

# Neck Disability Index (NDI)

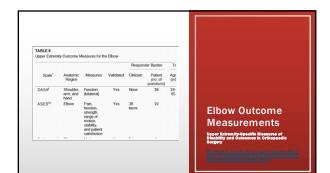
# - J Manipulative Physiol Ther 2008(Sep):31(7):491-502 · Howard Vernot, DC, PhD

- BACKGROUPD. Published in 1995, the Mosk Disability Infor (NDI) was the first instrument designed to assess self-rated disability in patients with nock pain. This article reviews the history of the NDI and the current state of the research into its psychometric properties reliability, validity, and responsiveness as well as its translations. Focused reviews are presented into its use in studies of the prognosis of whiplash-injured patients as well as its use in clinical trials of conservative therapies for neck pain.
- SPECIAL FEATURES: The NDI is a relatively short, paper-pencil instrument that is easy to apply in both clinical and research settings. It has strong psychometric characteristics and has proven to be highly responsive in clinical trails. As of late 2007, It has been used in approximately 300 publications; it has been translated into 22 languages, and it is notored for use by a number of clinical guidelines.
- SUMMARY. The NDI is the most widely used and most strongly validated instrument for assessing self-rated disability in patients with neck pain. It has been used effectively in both clinical and research settings in the treatment of this very common problem.

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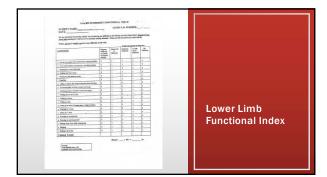
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Scale <sup>*</sup>	Anatomic Region	Measures	Validated	Clinician	Patient (no. of questions)	Age ()7)	
DASH	Shoulder, arm, and hand	Function (bilateral)	Yes	None	38	18- 65	
ASES <sup>L3</sup>	Shoulder	Pain, instability, activities of daily living	Yes	Rarely used	10	20- 81	Shoulder Outcome Measurements
Constant <sup>16</sup>	Shoulder	Function	Yes	6 items	2	14- 85	Upper Extremity-Specific Measures of Disability and Outcomes in Orthopaedic Surgery
							Matthew V. Smith, MD.1, Ryan P. Calfee, MD.2



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Boston Carpal Tunnel Questionnaire <sup>50</sup>	Hand	Pain, sensibility, weakness, and function	Yes	None	19	Hand Outcome Measurements
Jebsen-Taylor Hand Function Test <sup>54</sup>	Hand	Timed functional task	Yes	Time Tasks	7 tasks	Upper Extremity-Specific Measures of Disability and Outcomes in Orthopsed

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Pain	
<ul> <li>Visual Analog Scale</li> <li>McGill Pain Questionnaire</li> </ul>	1
Pain Drawing	
Cervical	- 40 - 41 42 - 40 - 40 - 40
<ul> <li>Neck Disability Index</li> </ul>	10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0
Lumbar	
Revised Oswestry Pain Questionnaire	Unbearable No Distress Distress
Axial Spine	Task

# Outcome Assessment Tools

 Important to remember to utilize the same outcome assessment tool through the course of case management with each patient.

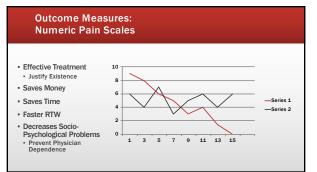


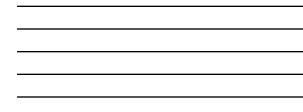
### **Outcome-Based Practice: Clinical Decision Making**

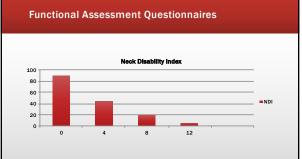


 "Correlating this information to the patient's specific clinical data and then making a clinical decision based on the results, represents a difficult but important step in making the 'paradigm shift' into becoming an 'outcome-based' practice."

(Yeomans SG: The Clinical Application of Outcomes Assessment, Stamford Connecticut, Appleton & Lange 2000)











- Every patient and every injury is different!
- Most defense IME / RR physicians utilize prospective risk analysis when evaluating a retrospective situation.

