

Development of International Evidence-Based Standardized Care Plans for Home Care

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Background

- Standardized terminologies have potential to enable information exchange across populations and settings
- Unless standardized terminologies are used consistently across settings, the data generated are not likely to be comparable
- Standardized terminologies must describe standards of care in standardized ways.

Purpose

To develop international standards of care for home care settings using the Omaha System.

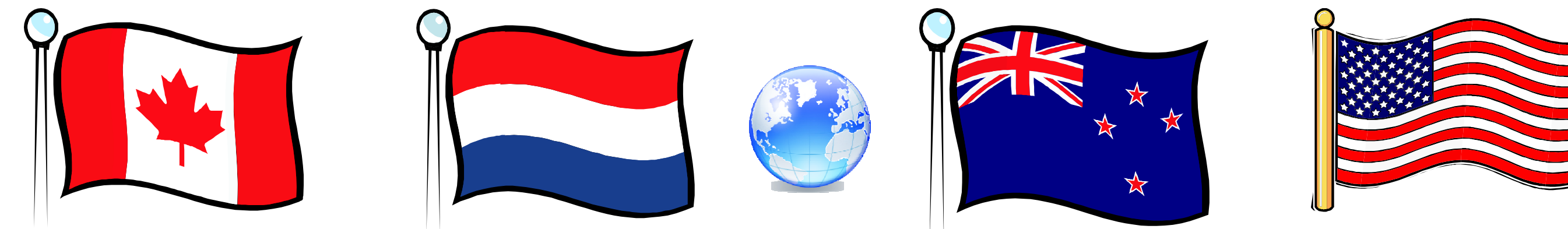
Participants

Home care experts from four countries

- Canada
- The Netherlands
- New Zealand
- United States

University of Minnesota graduate students

University of Minnesota researchers.



Method

- Twelve Omaha System problems were selected to represent an essential home care assessment for all patients.
- All participants contributed evidence through literature searches, clinical expertise, and research findings.

Problems

- Abuse
- Caretaking/parenting
- Circulation
- Medication Regimen
- Mental Health
- Neglect
- Neuro-musculo-skeletal function
- Nutrition
- Respiration
- Residence
- Skin
- Substance use

- Drafts created by researchers based on existing resources
- Drafts reviewed and revised by the participants during an eight hour face-to-face meeting
- New drafts posted on-line for public comment
- Final review and revision during a telephone conference call one month later
- Adoption by all participants as standards of care and documentation tools

Results

- Evidence based standardized care plans are in use by participating agencies
- Available on-line in the public domain with references (omahasystemmn.org).
- Format enables data collection on paper or electronically.

Next Steps

The group is currently developing additional evidence based standardized care plans for other Omaha System problems addressed in home care settings.



Conclusion

This process is an exemplar for use of evidence-based practice standards for assessment and documentation to support global population health and research.

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