Implementation of the WD-FAB in the field of assessment of work disability in Belgium: a feasibility study

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The context

- NIHDI
- Sickness benefits + re-integration
  - Employee, independants, unemployed
  - Private accident +non-occupational diseases
  - Criteria for recognition + benefits

The context

- Re-integration tools
  - Legislation
    - Re-education
    - Work resumption during work incapacity
    - **"New": re-integration trajectories with focus on CAPACITIES.**
- Insurance companies – mutualities - medical advisors

Is functioning measured in assessment of work (in) capacity?

- (note: other situation possible when patient is FU in rehabilitation center)
- But within social security, lack, in a formal way of application:
  - ICF
  - FCE: what is it?
  - Measurement instruments in general

Is functioning measured in assessment of work (in) capacity

- New legislation offers opportunities to implement but:
  - Little clear research: research group is preparing guideline
  - What works in the Belgian context?
  - What predicts LT incapacity?
  - What to measure on which moments?
  - What is feasible?

The future: several projects in parallel

- Questionnaire 7th week of work incapacity: prediction of LT work incapacity
- Implementing multidisciplinarity in our department/ insurance companies
- ICF core sets – linking with validated tools
- Research on the use of ErgoKit, IMBA, … in Belgium
- IPS
- WD-FAB
- …

WD-FAB

What's in it for Belgian social security sector (NIHDI)

The context

- EUMASS – medical advisors – center of knowledge in work incapacity
- Missons center of knowledge:
  - Research
  - Network
  - $\Rightarrow$ assessment of added value of WD-FAB fits perfect our missions
- But remains a challenge

Steps to take

- **Step 1: creating a working group**
  - Mix NIHDI (policy), medical advisors (users), scientists (research part)
- Step 2: face validity
  - analyzing items of the WD-FAB
  - Keep – adapt
- Step 3: implementation barriers to foresee
  - Eg. algoritm?
  - Eg. translation
  - Eg. where are data stored?
  - Eg. what is the min. info the medical advisor needs?

Steps to take

- Step 4: back- and forward translation + recalibration
- Step 5: submit projectproposal to offical commitee

- Between steps:
  - convention with partners, with US?
  - SRSS?
  - Communication – sharing knowledge with EUMASS partners

Pilot project

- Within social insurance companies inclusion of patients (big sample)
- Result needs to be communicated to medical advisor
- Added value of results/score? Response to questions?
- Scientific part:
  - Results are also collected for research aims + linked to RTW

Questions?