

International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health

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- The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) classifies health by accounting for functioning.
- The ICF is a framework to characterize diminished functioning or disability.
- The overall aim of the ICF classification is to provide a unified and standard language and framework for the description of health and health-related states.
 - *‘Objective description’*

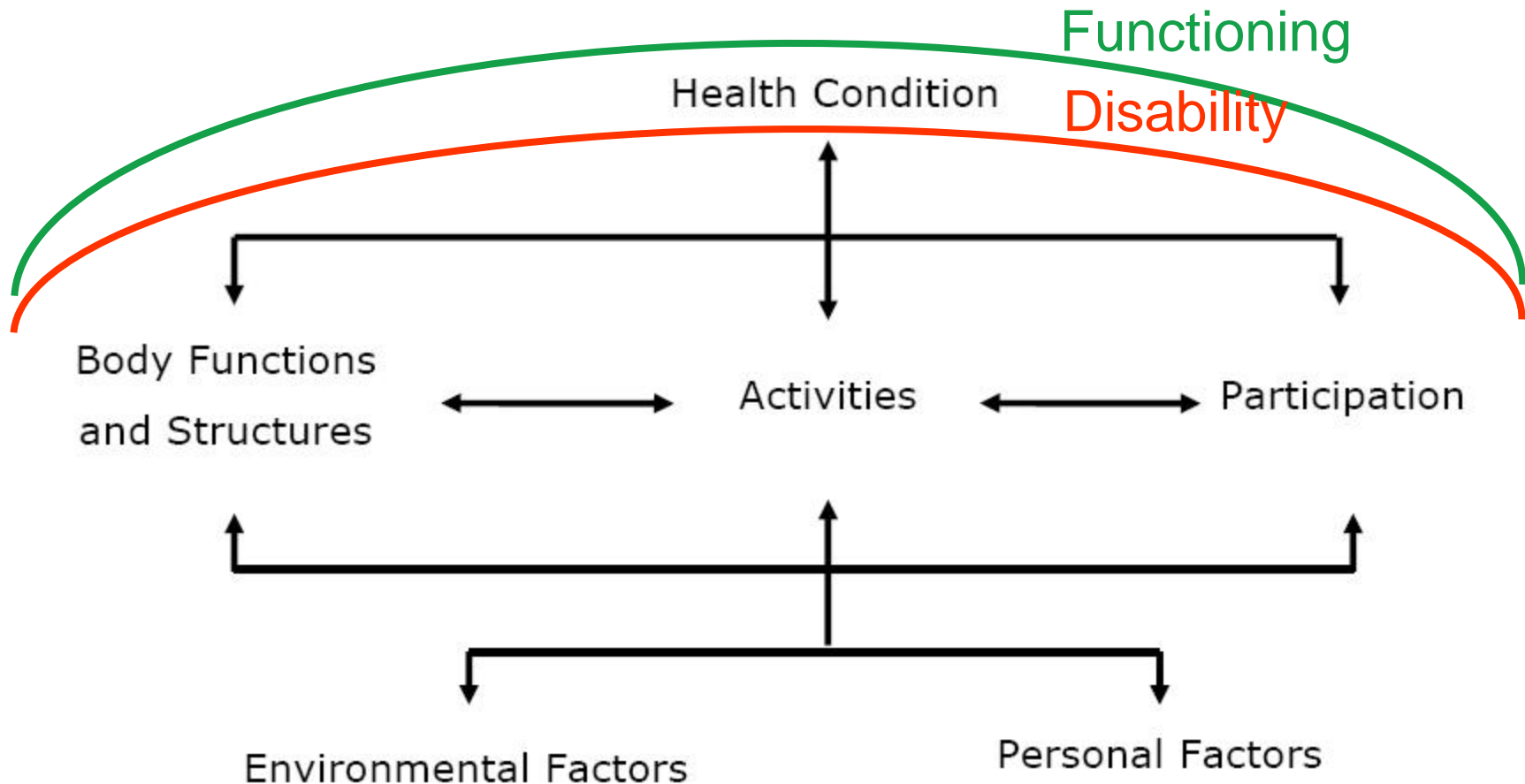
ICF key components

- **Body Functions - *Impairments***
 - A deviation or loss of functions (e.g. muscle weakness) and/or anatomical structures (e.g. malformation).
- **Activities - *Limitations in activities***
 - Difficulties in executing tasks or actions (e.g. limitations in walking).
- **Participation – *Participation restrictions***
 - Problems in societal functioning, i.e. in involvements in daily-life situations (e.g. restrictions in community ambulation).

Contextual Factors

- *Contextual Factors* represent the complete background of an individual's life and living.
- *Environmental factors*
 - The physical, social and attitudinal environment in which people live.
- *Personal factors* (not classified in ICF)
 - The particular background of an individual's life and living, and comprise features of the individual that are not part of a health condition or health states.

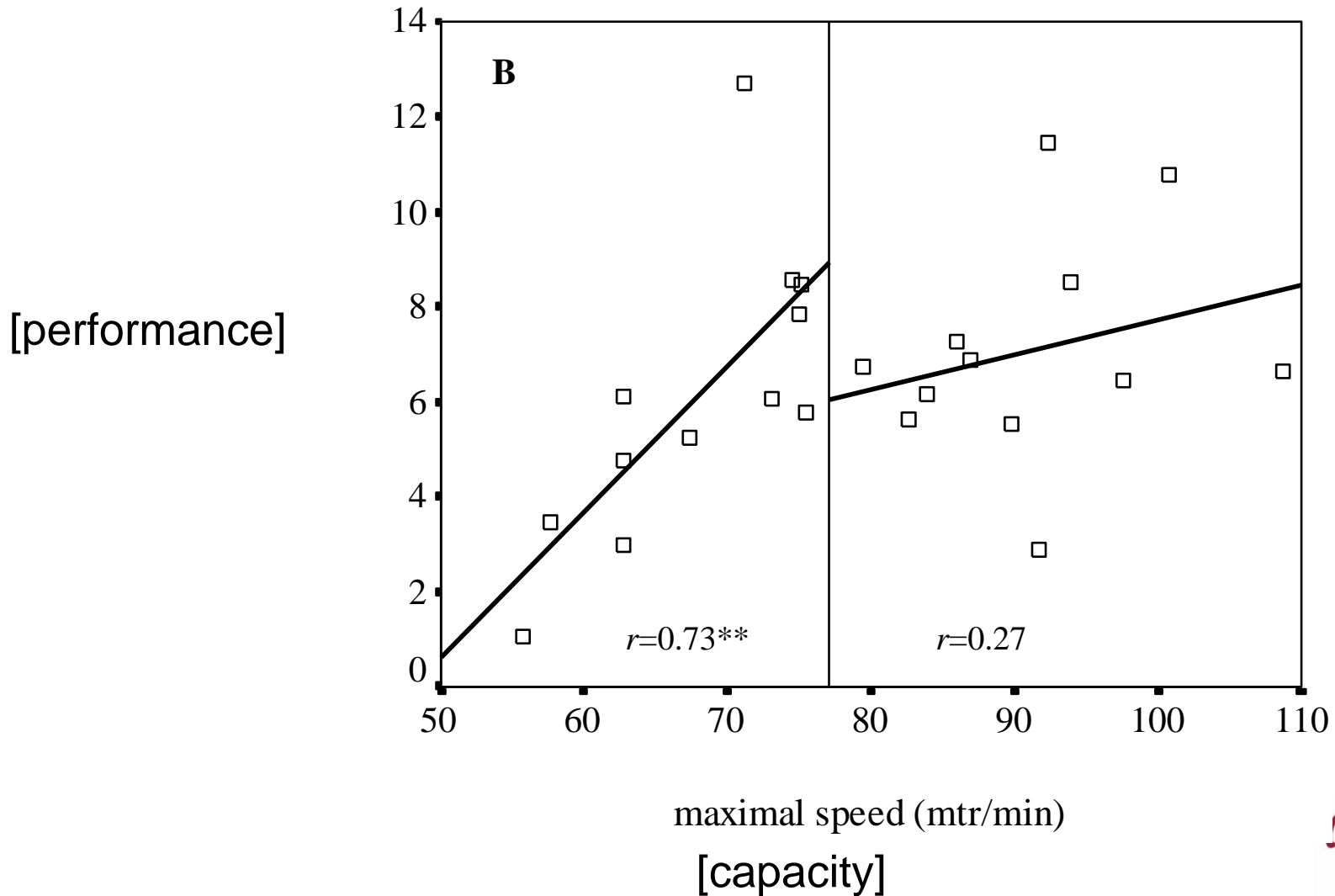
ICF – Framework



Activities and Participation

- Closely connected.
- The performance qualifier describes what an individual **does** in his or her current environment.
- The capacity qualifier describes an individual's **ability** to execute a task or an action. Thus the highest probable level of functioning that a person may reach, may be assessed in a 'test' environment

Capacity and Performance



Activities and Participation

Domains		Qualifiers	
		Performance	Capacity
d1	Learning and applying knowledge		
d2	General tasks and demands		
d3	Communication		
d4	Mobility		
d5	Self-care		
d6	Domestic life		
d7	Interpersonal interactions and relationships		
d8	Major life areas		
d9	Community, social and civic life		

ICF and Quality of Life

- The concept of functioning within the ICF framework is different from the concept of quality of life.
- Whereas Quality of Life refers to global or highly personalized evaluations of functioning referring to satisfaction or feelings,
- the ICF assesses functional capacity, such as physical endurance and muscle strength, and the impact of health on the performance of activities and disability.

ICF- *Classification*

- Classification [→ Definitions] at different levels, including severity
 - Body Functions
 - Body structures
 - Activities and Participation
 - Environmental Factors



Core sets

Measurement instruments

Many instruments are not ICF compatible

Conclusions

- Given the different impairments, such as muscle weakness, endurance, fatigue, and pain, and the widespread functional restrictions that may persist in polio survivors and progress due to post-polio syndrome, the ICF framework enables a comprehensive description of disability in polio survivors.
- To allow comparison between studies, a standard set of outcome measures covering the most relevant ICF concepts should be agreed upon.