ICF-based assessment tool development for care skill training in Japanese long-term care system

Lead Research Institution: University of Hyogo
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Budget: US$ 85,000
Development of care skill evaluation tool by ICF code: November 2017; Determination of the site to be surveyed: December 2017; Baseline Assessment: January 2018; Second line Assessment: June 2018; Interview survey: July 2018; Analysis and Reporting: August-September 2018

Research background
An increasing number of countries are facing the problem of population ageing, which is putting continuous stress on long-term care. The situation is particularly alarming in East Asia, where the demand for care workers is expected to at least double by 2050. Thus, a training system for long-term care staffs that supports universal health coverage is needed. To address shortages in long-term care workers, Japan has developed a “Technical Intern Training Programme”. This is the first training programme directed to foreigners who wish to work in the long-term care field. In order to achieve the objectives of the programme, tools that objectively measure whether the skills have been transferred are essential. Furthermore, tools that can be applied internationally are preferred.

Study Goals and objectives
This study focuses on the Technical Intern Training Programme, and aims to develop tools to evaluate the process of transferring care skills to foreign trainees. The study will also examine the possibility of utilizing the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) to apply existing tools to other countries. The objective of the research is 1) to develop new evaluation tools using the ICF concept on the basis of current assessment tools that have been created for the Technical Intern Training Programme in Japan and 2) to validate the developed tools by conducting surveys and in-depth interviews at Japanese facilities providing care-training internships.

Methodology
This project consists of three parts:
a) Development of new evaluation tools using the ICF concept and current assessment tools that have been created for the Technical Intern Training Programme in Japan.
b) Quantitative validation of the new tools by collecting and analysing additional data through self-reported questionnaires.
c) Additional qualitative examination of the new tools through in-depth interviews.

Expected outcomes
The project will contribute to the development of training systems for long-term care workers in Japan that can also be extended eventually for training in other countries. If the care training system can be applied to many countries, it could potentially contribute to reducing the shortage of care providers globally.

Team members
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