

# The Effect of Providing Electrically Propelled Indoor Outdoor Powered Wheelchairs (EPIOC's) on Occupational Performance and Perceived Quality of Life.

Marion May

# Epioc's are relatively new to NHS provision.

## HSG (96) 34 Act Guidelines

Stated that severely disabled people should

- Have difficulty propelling a manual chair outdoors
- Be able to benefit from the chair through easier and increased mobility, leading to improved quality of life
- Be able to handle the chair safely after training.

# Measuring mobility as occupational performance levels.

- Canadian occupational performance measure (Law et al 1998)
- Convenience sample 20 planned 12 achieved
- Initial COPM performed on EPIOC assessment and repeated 4-12 weeks post provision
- Statistical analysis on data



# Results of COPM Data

	Performance Scores	Satisfaction Scores
Before EPIOC provision	1.70	1.25
After EPIOC provision	7.40	8.20
Exact significance (p=<0.01)	0.001	0.001

# Measuring perceived changes to quality of life

- Semi-structured interview
- Purposive sample of 12 planned 6 achieved
- Participants selected at second COPM assessment
- Face to face recorded interviews
- Interpretative phenomenological analysis (Smith 2003).

# Identified Themes

- Loss/decreased functional ability
- Conflict issues due to disease process
- Negative psychological changes
- Loss of locus of control
- Improved functional ability
- Effect on family and carers
- Positive psychological changes
- Awareness of safety aspects
- Improved locus of control
- Planning for the future
- Environmental influences on life
- Disability separating the person from society



# Superordinate Concepts

- Loss/ decreased functional ability/mobility before the EPIOC
- Negative psychological issues
- Improved functional ability/mobility
- Positive psychological changes
- Environmental influences on life
- Disability separating the person from society

# Barbara 'Life before the EPIOC'

“If you take time out of someone's life and just sit there, when all you have is just a window to look out, a television and your husband 24/7, you get on one another's nerves and you get depressed. You are a virtual prisoner, in the same four walls, no matter how pretty your home is, how nice your home is. It's a prison and it gets you down”



# Barbara 'Life after the EPIOC'

*"To have a chair is freedom, and your life changes so much and you are not asking people, oh you know your family, can you get me this can you get me that. You just go and b\*\*\*\*y get it yourself, you know, its hard to describe how you feel."*

# Anne

“Like a big plant, its got lots of roots and its strong and safe and then someone just pulls it up and its not there anymore its gone, that’s how it feels, that’s your personality, gone. This chair (the EPIOC) has put me back again, and my roots are beginning to grow so that I can be independent again. I don’t need another person to hold me up anymore.”

# The future

“ I think its opened up a whole new spectrum for me, it's a good wheelchair, its been brilliant for me and the futures only looking rosy as they say. I just feel better”



# Thank You

*Any questions?*