

## SPOTLIGHT ON GALE WHITENECK

Each month we try to highlight the work of researchers who have made significant contributions to the ICF. Gale Whiteneck is long overdue to appear in our Spotlight. He has been the Director of Research at Craig Hospital in Englewood, Colorado since 1986. He is the Principal Investigator for three federal projects on spinal cord injury (SCI) , traumatic brain injury (TBI), and mortality after TBI. His investigations focus on functional assessment, handicap/participation measurement, environmental impact assessment, and long-term outcomes. He is the author of three books and nearly 200 articles. He is also widely recognized for his ICIDH and ICF-based measures, the Craig Handicap Assessment and Reporting Technique (CHART) and the Craig Hospital Inventory of Environmental Factors (CHIEF). These measures are used in the National SCI and TBI Databases and other disability research. Dr. Whiteneck has given major presentations on ICIDH/ICF to the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine, the American Paralysis Society, the International Society of Paraplegia, and the American Spinal Injury Association. He served as a consultant to the World Health Organization for the revision of ICIDH and the development of the ICF. For example, check out these two papers: Mellick D, Walker N, Brooks CA, Whiteneck G. Incorporating the Cognitive Independence Domain into CHART. J Rehabil Outcomes Meas 1999;3(3):12-21. Hall, JM, Dijkers M, Whiteneck G, Brooks C.A., Krause, JS. The Craig Handicap Assessment and Reporting Technique (CHART): Metric Properties and Scoring. Topics in Spinal Cord Injury Rehabilitation 1998;4(1):16-30. People often find the little known personal facts about ICF luminaries very interesting, so here are some tidbits which Gale provided about himself:: he grew up on a hog farm in Illinois; he worked for a local newspaper for 50 cents an hour in high school; he paid his way through college with photography and graphic arts business; his 1981 PhD is in Speech Communication; his first research consulting job was for a statewide school finance reform lawsuit; his first contact with Craig Hospital was helping the then-Vice President with his dissertation analysis; he is now returning to photography after over 30 years, this time as a hobby and this time digital; he is currently on a list awaiting a kidney transplant, so sign those donor cards; and he is looking forward to attending the Paralympics and a conference in Greece, then cruising the islands. Ask him to send you a postcard from Greece! Dr. Whiteneck is at:

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