

Newsletter # 2- Mesure de la Fonction Motrice

Online: April 2009

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► International diffusion of the MFM:

The MFM (Muscle Function Measurement) was recognized as one of the useful evaluation tools for neuromuscular diseases at the Myology 2008 Congress, and at the 5th international congress for rehabilitation at Marseille. It is listed in the “**TREAT-NMD ROM**“(Registry of Outcome Measures).

Every day muscle disease professionals connect to the Website to download the [User's Manual](#) or update their competence by taking the [Quiz](#).

Translations of the MFM User's Manual exist in **French, English, Spanish and Dutch**. In 2009 the **Portuguese** version will be validated. Reference persons are needed to coordinate training and research.

The map shows the countries from which [these professionals](#) have provided their co-ordinates.



► How to learn to use the MFM ?



To familiarize yourself with the utilization of the MFM and its rigorous principles for scoring, an initial training period is desirable. This can be effected by a colleague who has already been trained or by participating in a training day with video support. From June 2004 to October 2008, a total of 415 therapists, mainly **physical therapists, ergotherapists** and **physicians** were trained to use MFM during 29 training sessions. During the training session, the leader of the session explains details which enhance the competence of the user. Validation of correct use of the MFM is performed by passing a test at the end of the training session. Success in this test is imperative for utilizing the MFM in the context of clinical research. It is recommended to train with at least two subjects before taking the scores obtained into account.

[Click on the link to find information on "Training in Motor Function Measure"](#)

Competency of the user can be updated using video clips from the site: www.mfm-nmd.org. The therapist can take as many "[Competency Quiz](#)" sessions as he/she wishes.

► **The inclusion of young children for the validation of the MFM will end in April 2009:**

Because of the reduced cooperation of young children in all test situations and the psychomotor development which limits their motor performances, some items of the MFM-32 are not appropriate and a shorter scale is envisaged. The MFM-32 was administered to 191 normal children aged less than 7 years. The results led to a selection of 20 items to retain; scoring of the items is identical.

Between March 2008 and March 2009, 19 French, Belgian, Swiss and English groups are participating in the validation study for this **MFM-20**. They are testing children less than 7 years old with neuromuscular disorders.

On behalf of the MFM steering committee
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