Putting the 'ROOT' into 'ROOTine' Data Collection

ROYAL COLLEGE OF
SPEECH & LANGUAGE
THERAPISTS

CELEBRATING **75** YEARS

1945 – 2020

Kathryn Moyse

**Outcomes and Informatics
Manager, Royal College of
Speech & Language Therapists**

Katie Chadd

**Research and Outcomes
Officer, Royal College of
Speech & Language Therapists**

Coming up today

- Overview of the RCSLT Online Outcome Tool

- Reflections and feedback from speech and language therapy service using the ROOT

- Developments, use and applications of the ROOT during COVID

Challenges for the SLT profession

- What do we mean by outcomes?

- How do we capture the impact of speech and language therapy?

- Lack of regional or national uniform outcomes data

- The time burden associated with collecting data

- Analysing and presenting outcomes data effectively

Identified an existing outcome measure that was the 'best fit' for data collection across the SLT profession

Developed and piloted an online tool to support with data collection and reporting – the RCSLT Online Outcome Tool (ROOT)

Evaluation of the pilot indicated that the ROOT added value to the services

Roll-out of the ROOT across the SLT profession using a phased approach

WHAT IS ROOT?

Click here to find out more

Uptake by the SLT profession

Key
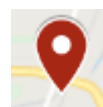
 Pilot site/
early adopter
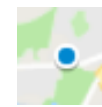
 Expression
of interest

Total ROOT data: 1 September 2010 – 31 August 2020	
Number of episodes of care	44,150
Number of patients/clients	38,718
Number of SLT services	35

Children's Speech and Language Therapy, Kingston upon Thames

Daisy Childs & Carmel Brady

Speech and Language Therapists

ROOT ready April 2019

What helped?

Synchronicity with clinical system = clean data

ROOT Ready Flow Chart
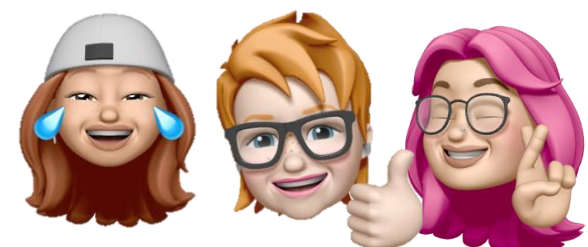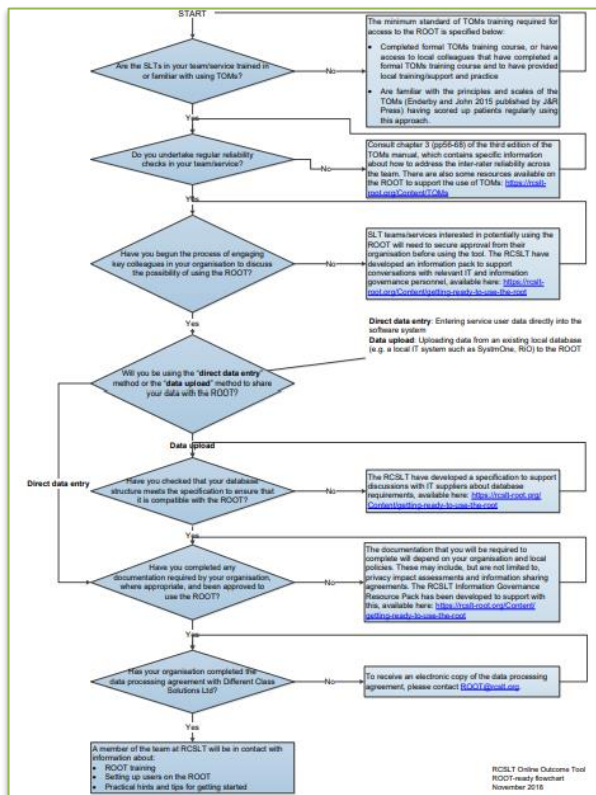
Motivation and support of Information Team

Data and Findings to Date

TOMS : Therapy Outcome Measures for Rehabilitation Professionals

Pam Enderby and Alexandra John

R02 Change between initial and final TOMs scores across each domain (pie chart) **NEW**

Key		Impairment (E =8)	Activity (E = 8)	Participation (E = 8)	Wellbeing (E = 8)	Carer Wellbeing (E = 8)
Down						
Same						
Up						
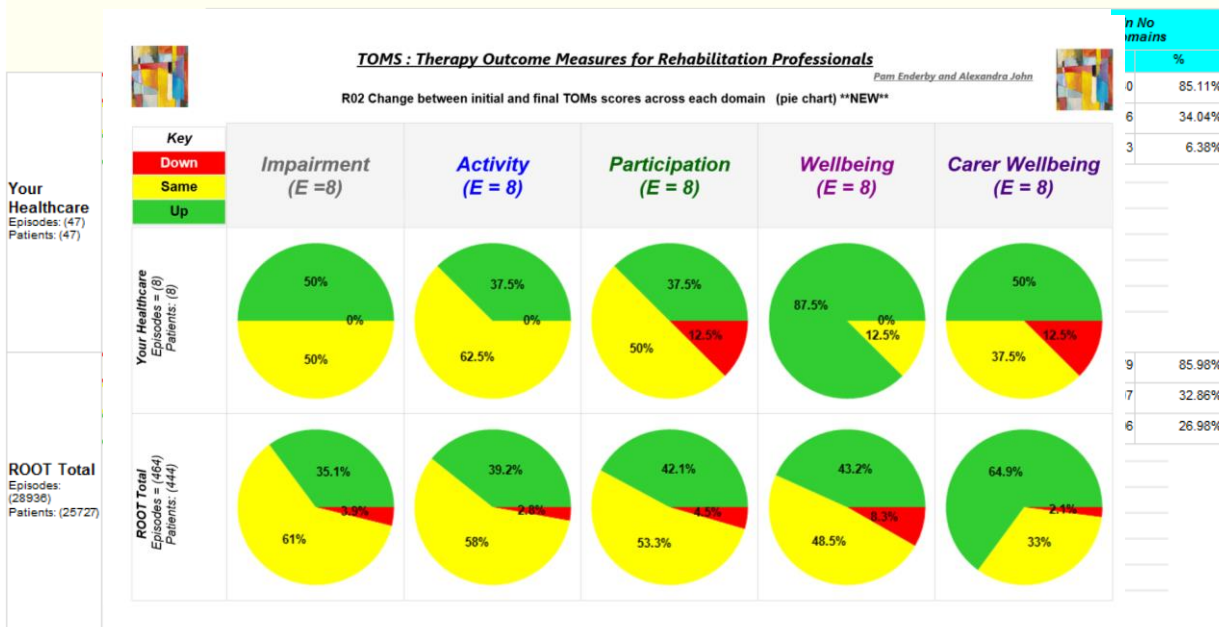
5 Sets
of data sent

118 Total
number of children

your healthcare

What our therapists say about using TOMS

Helps SLTs consider what is important and the priorities for child and family

100% would recommend to a colleague

Helps set functional targets and keeps child at centre
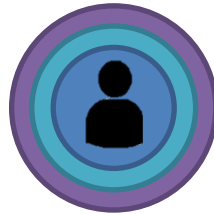
Clear way of measuring difference and the impact

Structure helps SLTs formulate a rationale

Helps with knowing when to discharge - due to structure and considering change/impact

Easy and can be carried out quickly, once the SLTs get the hang of it

Useful to give to SLTAs

your healthcare

Intentions and Aspirations

Use TOMs to evaluate service offers such as therapy groups, training and parent workshops
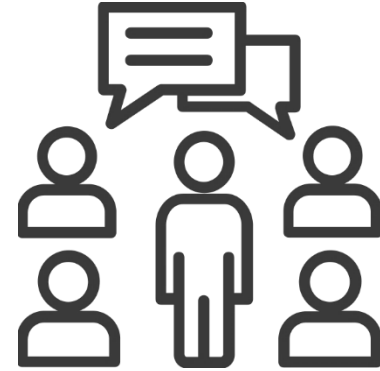
Use TOMs to coproduce KPIs with our commissioners for a pending contract

Continue to collect and analyse ROOT data to inform service design

your healthcare

How is the ROOT supporting speech and language therapists to deliver quality services?

Visit our **website** for some detailed examples of how the outcomes data is being used by services, including:

- Supporting individual clinicians with their clinical decision making and to inform patient care

- Evaluating the effectiveness of interventions and areas for improvement

- Supporting service improvement, planning and redesign

- Providing information about the impact of speech and language therapy to key stakeholders, including funders and commissioners

The ROOT during COVID-19

- Engagement with the project has increased over the course of the pandemic

    - Focus on importance of routine clinical data in absence of research evidence

- New developments:

    - Fields have been added to the ROOT to enable services to capture additional information (optional)

    - Launched the COVID-19 data collection tool, which uses TOMs, specifically for use with individuals with confirmed/suspected COVID-19

The ROOT during COVID-19

- The data will assist the profession with:

  ☐ Understanding the presentation, management and outcomes of individuals with COVID-19 receiving speech and language therapy

  ☐ Highlighting the contribution of speech and language therapy in the rehabilitation of individuals with COVID-19

  ☐ Evaluating whether different methods of service delivery have an impact on outcomes

Interested in finding out more about the ROOT?

- Visit our website: https://www.rcslt.org/speech-and-language-therapy/guidance-for-delivering-slt-services/outcome-measurement/outcome-tool-overview

- Contact us: root@rcslt.org

- Read our article: https://informatics.bmj.com/content/bmjhci/27/1/e100085.full.pdf

ABSTRACT

Background Evidencing the impact of speech and language therapy interventions is challenging. The UK's professional body for speech and language therapists (SLTs) is supporting a consistent approach to outcome measurement and analysis using Therapy Outcome Measures (TOMs).

Objective To develop a digital solution for collecting TOMs data, evaluate the impact of therapeutic interventions and explore contributing factors to outcome variation across clinical areas.

Method Agile methodology was applied to software development. Organisations were recruited to provide data. Criteria were identified to exemplify outcome variability.

Results A digital tool was developed. 21 organisations provided data on 16 356 individuals. Improvement in at least one domain of TOMs occurred in 77.1% of instances. Data for two clinical areas exemplify the tool's effectiveness in highlighting the impact of speech and language therapy.

Conclusion This established outcomes data set can be used to evaluate the impact of speech and language therapy, and explore variation in outcomes.

order to maximise internal validity[5] yet such attributes describe the majority of patients.

Increasingly, the value of applying 'real-world' data to support quality services, is recognised, with the role of information and digital technology frequently highlighted in national policies.[6–10] Nevertheless, there are numerous barriers for SLTs in the UK, including the absence of tools to support data collection and analytics. In recognition of this, the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) is undertaking a programme of work on outcome measurement, data collection and analysis with the aim of supporting SLTs with delivering quality services.

To promote a more consistent approach to outcome measurement across the profession the RCSLT undertook a review of 63 candidate measures.[11] Following a synthesis and Delphi consensus approach,[12] Therapy

Registration page for speech and language therapists:
https://rcslt-root.org/Public/Register

Thanks for listening