



04.25: Improving the Quality of Service Delivery Using Real-World Data

IALP 2023 World Congress



Learning outcomes

- To understand the meaning of real-world data and its value in speech and language therapy.
- To understand the benefits and challenges of real-world data collection and analysis.
- To learn how routine data collection can be used to examine inequities of access and drive improvements.



Real-world data and evidence

Real-world data (RWD):

“Data relating to patient health or experience or care delivery collected outside the context of highly controlled clinical trials”

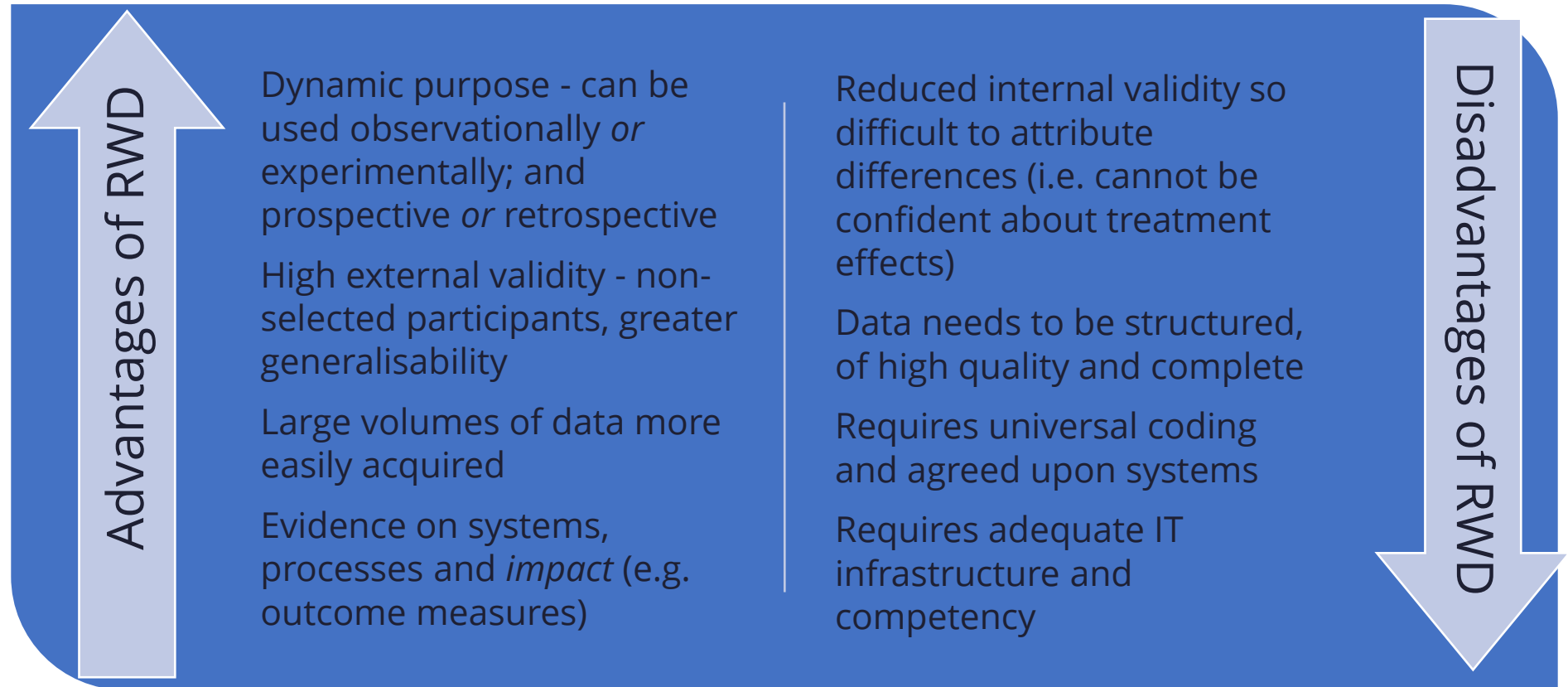
Real-world evidence (RWE):

“evidence generated from the analysis of real-world data”

NICE (2022)



Real world data – benefits and limitations



Routinely collected clinical data

One type of RWD is routinely collected data i.e. 'everyday' clinical information recorded in a service. This can be used to:

- Define and demonstrate SLT role
- Influence service planning and drive improvement
- Complement the evidence-base

BUT, it is difficult for busy clinicians to systematically collect and analyse this data...



RCSLT Online Outcome Tool

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT) is the professional body for SLTs (SLPs) in the UK.

RCSLT Online Outcome Tool (ROOT) developed to support speech and language therapy (SLT) services in the UK to collect and analyse RWD including demographic details, diagnostic information using ICD-10 codes, and outcome information using the Therapy Outcome Measure (TOM).



Therapy Outcome Measures (TOMs)

- Psychometrically robust
- Clinicians rate patients' functioning before and after therapy
- Holistic overview using 4 domains (based on WHO ICF)



(Enderby and John 2015; 2019)

ROOT – a source of real-world data

77

services contributing data

93

services in implementation phase

10

years of data from some services

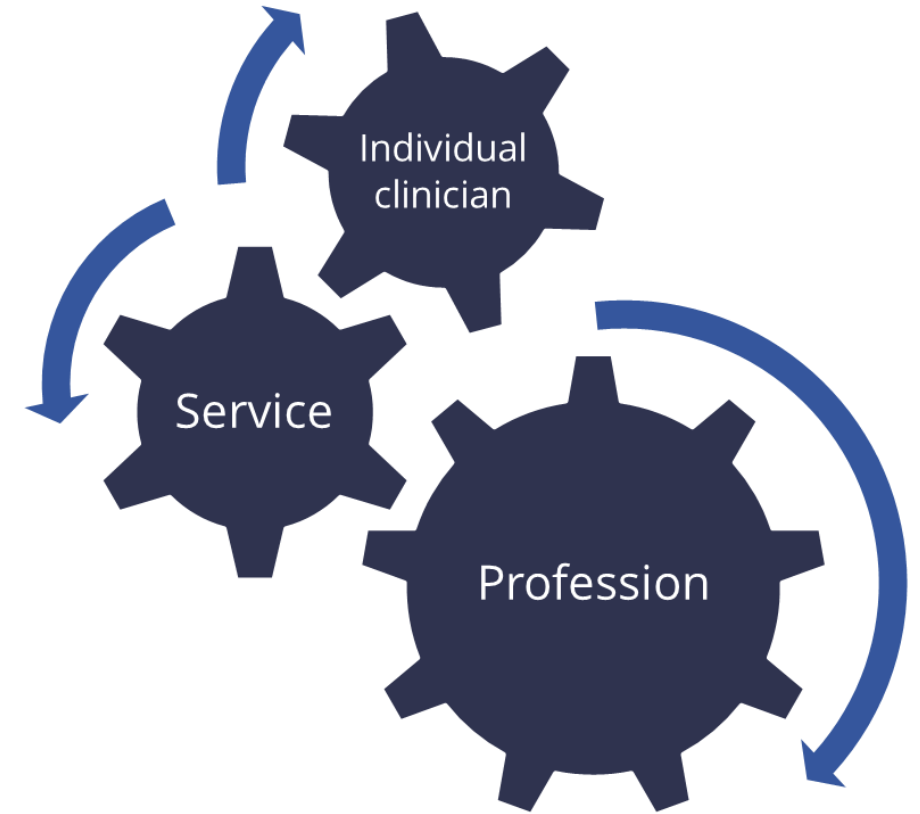
75,161

episodes of care recorded



How can ROOT be used?

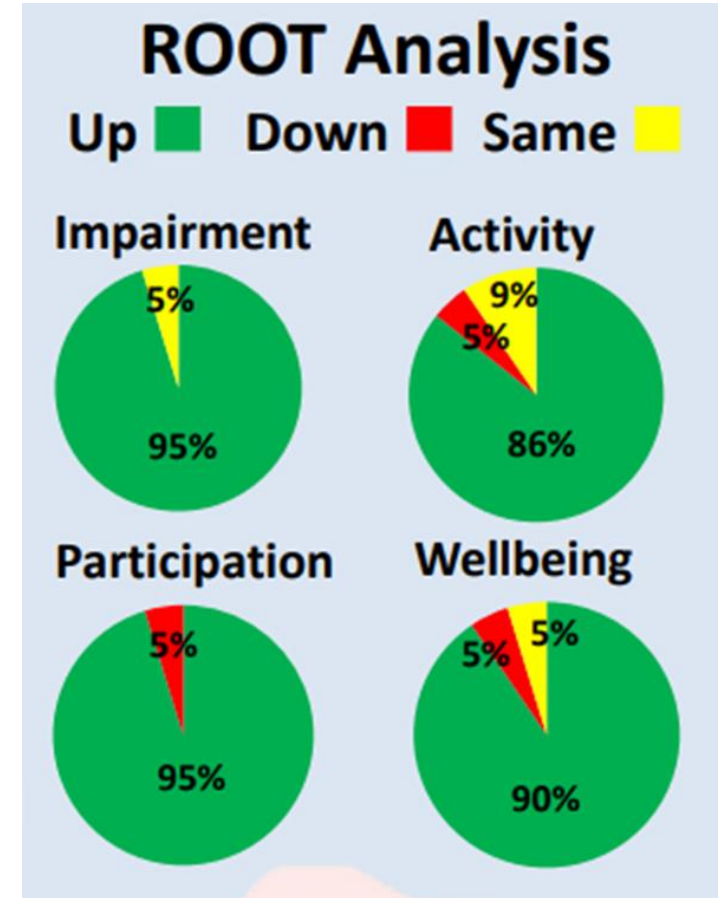
- Define and demonstrate SLT role
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Demonstrating role and impact

Enabled acute paediatric SLT service to:

- analyse and present their outcomes data
- create series of posters to demonstrate impact
- raise awareness of SLT role
- increase recognition and value within organisation



Driving service improvement

Inequity of access and unwarranted variation in outcomes - pilot is exploring how ROOT may help services monitor and address these issues, by including additional patient data on:

- Ethnicity
- Deprivation
- Language use / Interpreter status



Informing service planning

Enabled RCSLT to:

- demonstrate impact of the pandemic on provision
- compare outcomes for patients
- explore presentation, management and outcomes for a new patient group

Impact of COVID-19 on the Speech and Language Therapy Profession and Their Patients

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Complementing the evidence base

Long COVID - RCSLT able to interrogate ROOT data for information about presentation and primary needs

82

completed therapy episodes

71%

female

53
years

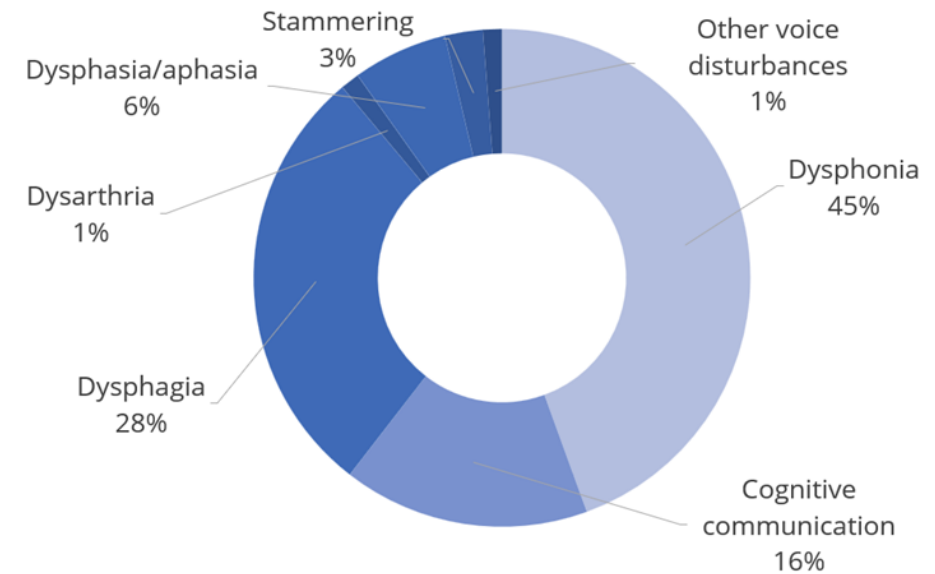
average age

45%

had a primary SLT need of dysphonia (voice difficulties)

76%

made improvement in one or more areas of the TOM



Conclusions

- We have shown how routine clinical data can be collected and interrogated to drive local and system-wide improvement.
- To improve the quality of services we need to have real evidence regarding the impact of different services and identify strengths and weaknesses. This can support research as well as service development.



Acknowledgements

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For more information, please contact root@rcslt.org



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Thank you for listening





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