Mentor's notes: Self care assistive products



1. Checklist of documents

- List of key words
- Key messages
- Product examples
- TAP Mobility assistive products screening form
- TAP Mobility assistive products foot screen guide.

2. Checklist of equipment

- Tablets / computers
- Head phones
- Notebook and pen.

3. Group discussion opportunities and activities to prepare for

Topics with interactive sections		Suggested instruction and mentor's planning notes
Lesson one: Mobility and different mobility problems		
Topic 2: Introducing self care	Reflection Which health care professional in your local area would you refer a person with incontinence to?	
Topic 3: Managing self care activities	 Discussion Discuss with colleagues or post on the discussion form some of the ways that difficulty with self care can impact a person's life. Below are some of common impacts, however there are likely others including some particularly relevant to the people in your community. Impacts of difficulty with self care: Some people feel shame because they need help. It takes longer to get things done, for the person and for family members who help so there is less time for other things. Some people may experience shame and embarrassment when there are bowel or bladder accidents. Some people end up being isolated or excluded. They are unable to participate in school, work, community life. There is a cost for individuals and their 	
	families, because of the need to buy extra products, or loss of income through the person not being able to work or a family member needing to work less to support them.	

Lesson three: Identifying who may benefit from self care assistive products

Topic 1: Talk to people about their self care

Discussion

Discuss in a group or post in the discussion forum what you can do to make talking about self care easier.

Draw on experiences you may have had of discussing self care with a family member or in your role as a service provider. Was it easy or difficult? What did you do to help the conversation?

What can you / your group add to the suggestions below?

Click to see answer

- Offer a private space to talk about self care
- Give people the opportunity to talk with a person of same gender
- Ask if the person would like a family member or carer to be with them
- Practice talking about self care with your family and colleague, so that you are comfortable with the topic
- Use words that are familiar to the person.

Discussion

Discuss in a group or reflect to yourself the words you would use to talk about urine and faeces with the following people. Are the terms different?

- A child
- Your mother
- An elderly neighbour
- A close friend.

Topic 2: What to do if people have difficulty with self care

Discussion

What resources or services are there in your area that can:

- Provide self care assistive products not covered in TAP (for example pressure relief cushions and mattresses, modified cutlery)?
- Assist people with adapting their home environment (for example putting in a ramp, adding a grab rail, making water and washing facilities more accessible)?
- Assist people to learn different ways of doing their self care?