

Cheshire & Merseyside Neurodiversity profiling tool evaluation

SEPTEMBER 2025 UPDATE



Centre for Autism,
Neurodevelopmental Disorders
and Intellectual Disability
www.canddid.nhs.uk

Meet The Evaluation Team

Study team admin support: Henrietta De Gale
Research assistant: Ruksana Begum-Meades
Senior clinical studies officer: Lisa Douglas
Clinician researcher: Isobel Tollerfield
Mentoring: Lisa Thompson / Chris Wee
Expert by experience: Josef de la Moitie

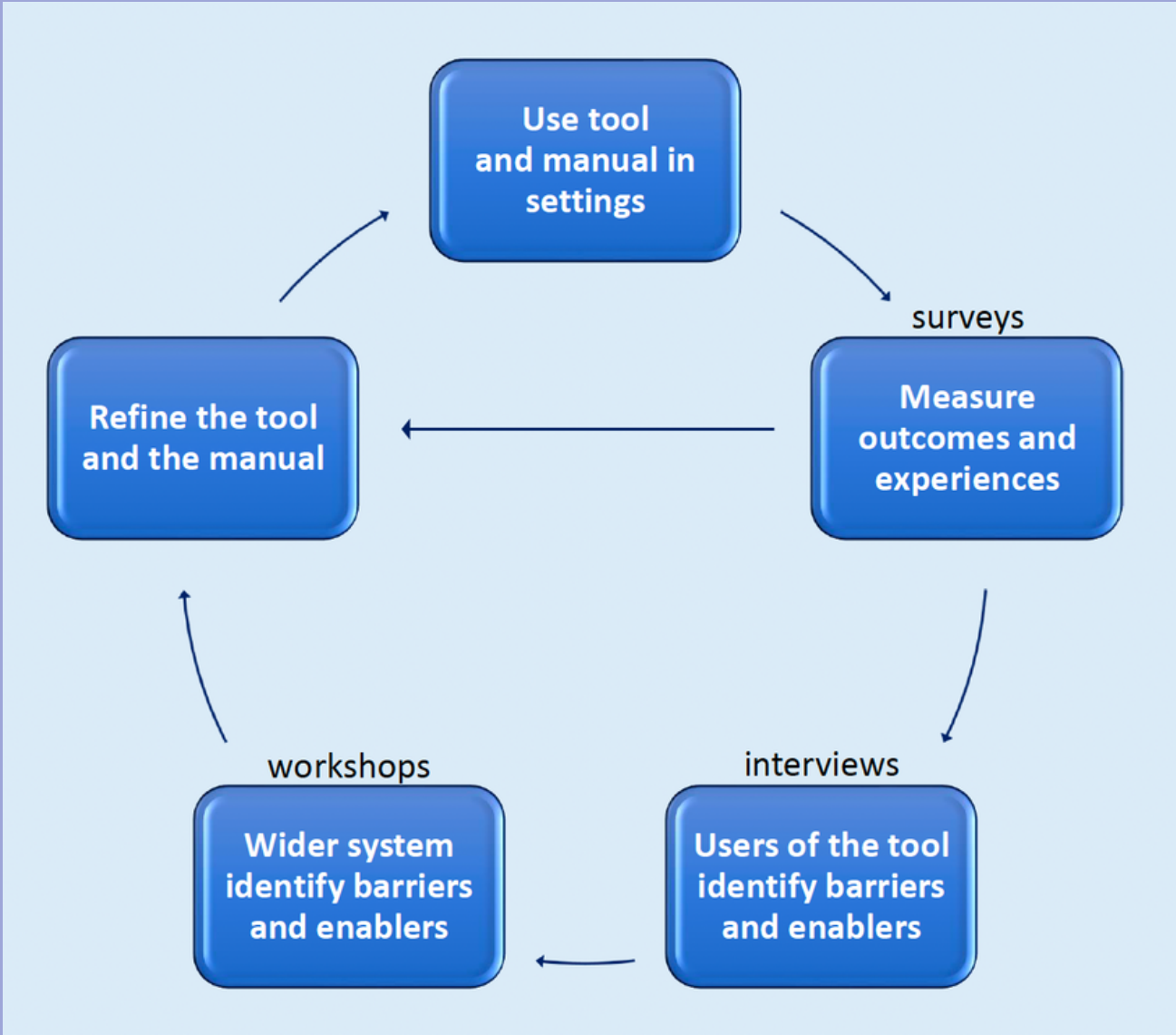
Project Summary.

Many neurodivergent people continue to report unmet needs, unappreciated strengths, and harmful consequences.

There is a need to examine how a neurodiversity profiling tool can be used to help children and young people access early, personalised support.

The Portsmouth-Cornwall profiling tool aims to assess the level of impact experienced in everyday life. The authors have shared their work so that it can be adopted and adapted for local use in other geographical regions. The ICB aim to roll out a Neurodiversity profiling tool to trigger earlier support for children as part of the Cheshire and Merseyside Neurodevelopmental pathway.

Evaluation Plan



Study Evaluation Questions

- 1 Does the profiling tool accurately describe the strengths and needs of children and young people with neurodevelopmental differences?
- 2 Does it improve understanding of the child/ young person?
- 3 Does it improve support?
- 4 What are the barriers and facilitators to the use of the profiling tool?



Early adopter sites: Wirral, Halton, St Helens

Rollout Progress Update

- Wirral: 24 profiles completed across 8 settings
- Halton & St Helens: training/ profiling in progress
- Wirral survey recruitment in progress
- Early manual updates in progress based on initial feedback

Methods

Work Package 1: Outcomes and experiences

Survey of young people, parents/carers, and education-based practitioners to understand there have been changes in support and everyday life and wellbeing since the profiles were created

Work Package 2: Implementation

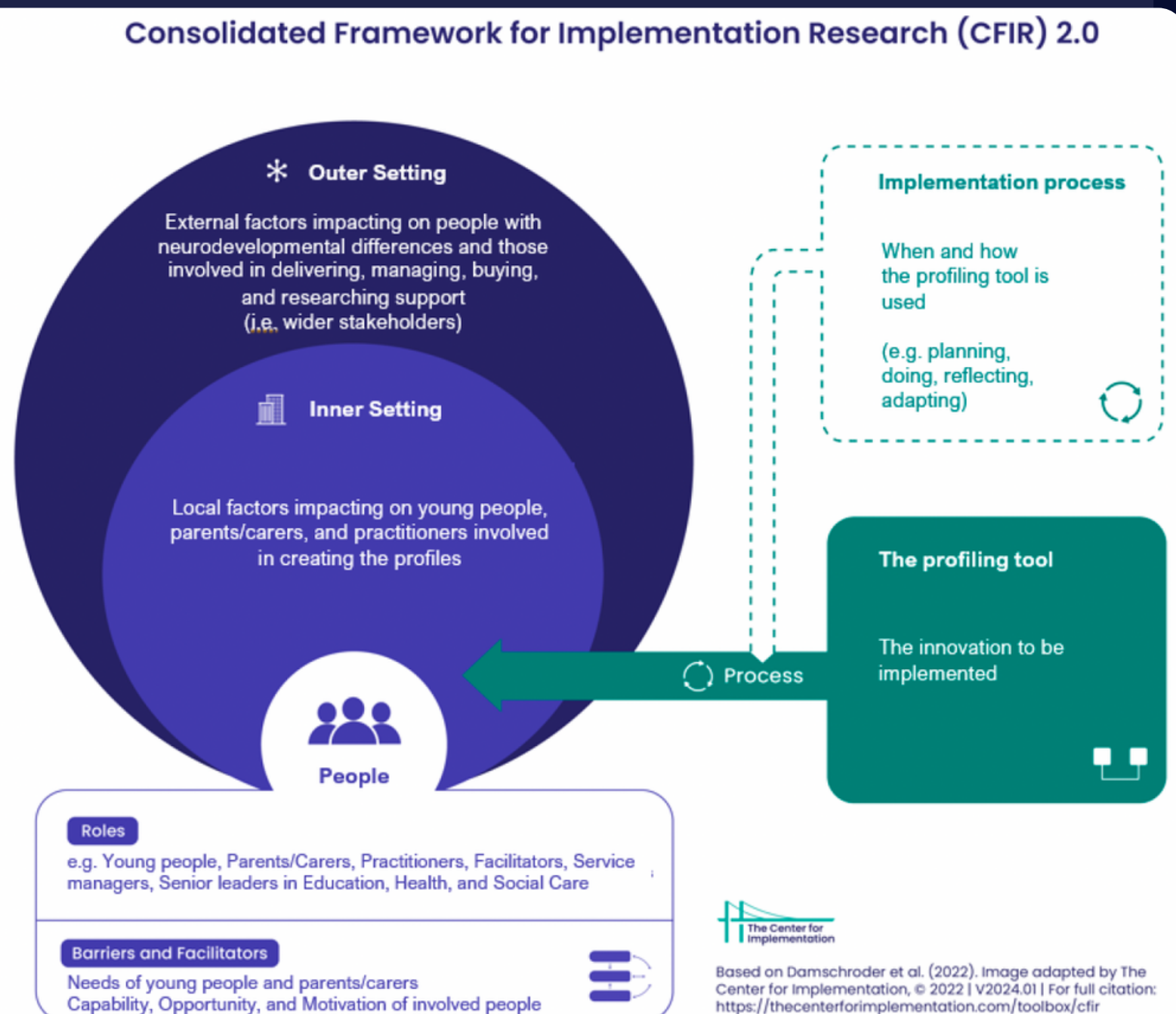
Interviews with young people, parents/carers, and education-based practitioners to discuss experiences of using the profiling tool and views on what works well and what doesn't

Work Package 3: Refining the tool

3 co-production workshops to inform the recommendations for refining the profiling tool and implementation manual

Work Package 4: Recommendations for implementation

Bringing together findings from all work packages to provide recommendations for refinement of the profiling tool and the associated manual, ready to be implemented across Cheshire and Merseyside



Co-production workshops

Thank you to everyone who has attended our workshops and provided feedback via our surveys.

Some of your feedback on key design features that you would like to see in the refined Cheshire and Merseyside profiling tool include: taking a neuro-affirming stance, providing a holistic view of the young person, reducing duplication, and supporting referrals to other services.

Feedback on tool content and format included: replacing or reframing terms that are too broad, using a neuro-affirming scoring system, and taking a strengths-based approach.

If you would like to attend our remaining co-production sessions in September, please email cwp.ndprofilestudy@nhs.net

Upcoming Meetings

- Co-production workshops next meetings: 16th September 12pm, 30th September 12pm
- PCF representatives meeting 9th September 1pm
- Second stakeholders implementation workshop Date TBC October 12pm and 4pm

To complete our most up to date co-production survey:



Frequently Asked Questions

Q1. Who are the CANDDID Study Team?

We (the Study Team) are carrying out an evaluation of the profiling tool and its implementation across the Cheshire and Merseyside area. We are not the Project Team, who are rolling out the tool at ICB level.

Q2. Why are you doing this evaluation?

We have been asked to carry out this evaluation to help co-produce a tool that is evidence-based and representative of children and young people across Cheshire and Merseyside and their needs. Our aim is to co-produce a refined version of the tool, based on our findings and conversations with stakeholders.

Q3. What will happen with the findings of the evaluation?

The findings and recommendations that come from the evaluation will be shared with the ICB, who will then determine what if any refinements will be made to the tool and its rollout across Cheshire and Merseyside.

Q5. How can I get involved?

If you would like to get involved in any of the co-production or stakeholder implementation workshops, please email the study team at cwp.ndprofilestudy@nhs.net

Any Questions?

Feel free to get in touch with

us at:

cwp.ndprofilestudy@nhs.net