RCSLT Outcomes Programme
Supporting the delivery of quality services
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.
### Therapy Outcome Measures

**Enderby and John (2015/2019)**

- TOMs scales address four dimensions of an individual in line with the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (WHO, 2007):
  - **Impairment** - the severity of the presenting difficulty/condition
  - **Activity** - the impact of the difficulty on the individual’s level of independence
  - **Participation** – impact on levels of social engagement and autonomy
  - **Wellbeing** – impact on mental and emotional wellbeing

- Each dimension is measured on an 11-point ordinal scale with six defined descriptors, ranging from 0 (worst case scenario), to 5 (best possible presentation).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
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<td>1.5</td>
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<td>2.0</td>
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WHAT IS ROOT?

Click here to find out more
Direct Data Entry

Data upload

Click [here](#) to find out more
The reports enable SLTs to drill down to examine the data at different levels, as required, including by:

- TOMs scale
- Impairment severity
- Primary medical diagnosis
- Progressive and non-progressive conditions
- Gender
- Age
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Applications of the reports

**Individual clinicians**

“Easy to see patterns and where we are actually having an impact on our clients’ lives”

“It all makes doing TOMs more worthwhile for everyone”

**SLT teams/services**

“enabled quicker analysis and a greater range of information and detail”

“We are starting to look at how/what area therapy benefits the clients”

“able to demonstrate to directorates and management more detail regarding clinical outcomes and value of SLT”
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Roll-out of the ROOT across the SLT profession using a phased approach.
Phased approach to implementation

- The RCSLT is rolling out the ROOT across the speech and language therapy profession using a phased approach
- 35 services currently using the ROOT and a further 150 SLT services have expressed an interest to date – includes SLTs services across the UK working in a range of clinical areas, settings and organisations

Register your interest at [https://rcslt-root.org/Public/Register](https://rcslt-root.org/Public/Register)
ROOT pilot sites and early adopters

Scotland
1 pilot site

Northern Ireland
3 pilot sites/early adopters

England
31 pilot sites/early adopters

Wales
2 pilot sites

Key
- Pilot site/early adopter
- Expression of interest
Phased approach to implementation

- Supporting ‘early adopters’ to implement the ROOT in their service by working through a flowchart.

Progress with ROOT ready flowchart

- 1 step: 21%
- 2 steps: 15%
- 3 steps: 25%
- 4 steps: 9%
- 5 steps: 6%
- 6 steps: 6%
- 7 steps: 6%
- 8 steps: 12%
Phased approach to implementation

- Continuing to develop and refine resources to support with implementation:
  - ROOT-ready flowchart
  - Briefing pack
  - Information governance pack
  - Data specification
  - Training modules
  - FAQs

https://rcslt-root.org/Content/getting-ready-to-use-the-root
Sample report: Phonology outcomes

Average (mean) change in TOMs between start and final ratings across each domain of the TOMs (Impairment, Activity Participation, Well-being and Carer Well-being) for children and young people with phonological disorder.
Direction of change in TOMs between start and final ratings across each domain of the TOMs (Impairment, Activity Participation, Well-being and Carer Well-being) for children and young people with phonological disorder.
## Sample report: Dysphagia outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Improvement in Five Domains</th>
<th>Improvement in Four or More Domains</th>
<th>Improvement in Three or More Domains</th>
<th>Improvement in Two or More Domains</th>
<th>Improvement in One or More Domains</th>
<th>Improvement in No Domains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NULL</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>21.43%</td>
<td>42.86%</td>
<td>85.71%</td>
<td>14.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROOT total</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>24.14%</td>
<td>51.72%</td>
<td>82.76%</td>
<td>17.24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage of individuals whose TOMs scores have improved across 0-5 domains of the TOMs for children and young people with dysphagia
How is the ROOT supporting speech and language therapists to deliver quality services?

- Our [webinar](https://www.rcslt.org/members/past-events-and-webinars/are-you-root-ready-the-value-of-the-rcslt-online-outcome-tool) provides 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
How is the ROOT supporting speech and language therapists to deliver quality services?

- Data-driven improvement: [ResNetSLT blog](https://resnetslt.com/2020/01/09/blog-measuring-outcomes-advice-resources-from-rcslt/)

- Developing our collection of case studies

[https://rcslt-root.org/Content/share-your-story-](https://rcslt-root.org/Content/share-your-story-)
Interest from other professionals using TOMs

- The RCSLT has been receiving expressions of interest from other professionals who wish to access the ROOT

- The Board approved a detailed scoping exercise to be undertaken to determine:
  - Level of demand from other professionals
  - Key developments to the ROOT required to accommodate use of the ROOT by other professionals
  - Possible options to fund the development and running of a MDT solution

- Please contact root@rcslt.org to receive updates about this work
Interested in getting involved?

- Visit our **ROOT resources webpage** for detailed information about getting ready to implement the ROOT
  

- Sign up to use the ROOT at:
  
  [https://rcslt-root.org/Public/Register](https://rcslt-root.org/Public/Register)

- Contact **ROOT@rcslt.org** to:
  
  - Let us know how we can support you in progressing to the next step in the ROOT-ready flowchart
  - Receive the ROOT e-newsletter