



Creating a More Effective Explanation of Concussions for Intensive English Program Students

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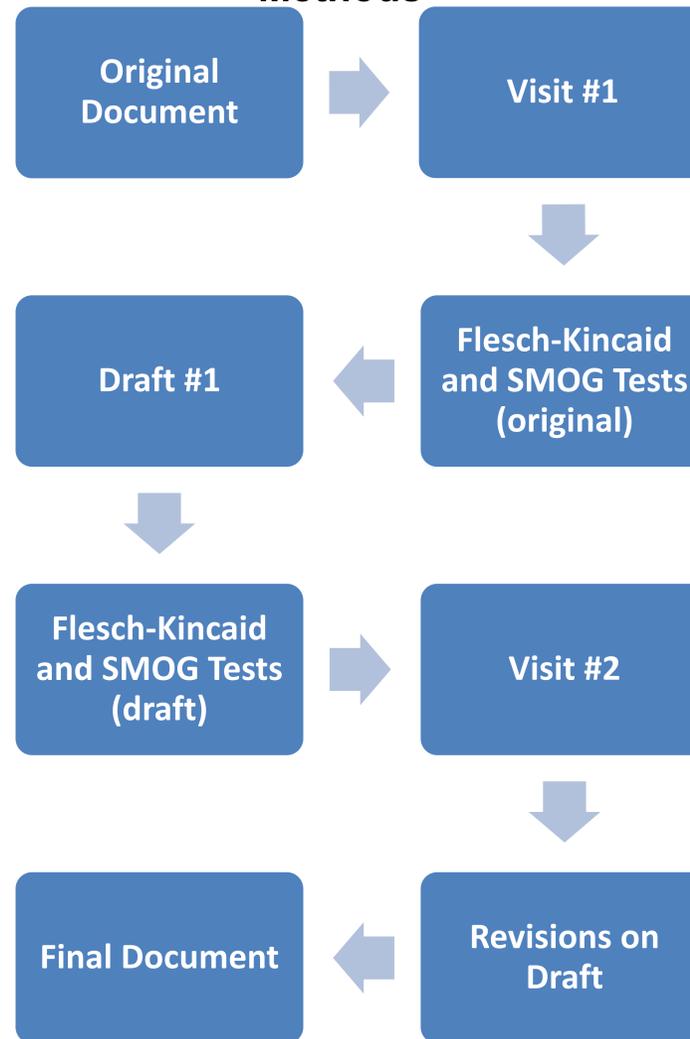
Abstract

The purpose of this project was to present written information on concussions to UD international students in the Level 2 Intensive English Program (IEP). We visited the IEP students' classroom twice and then used the information the students provided along with an original fact sheet produced by the Center for Disease Control to create a brochure that would help the students better understand concussions. Our document focused specifically on what a concussion is, its symptoms, and recovery tips.

Objective

Low health literacy is a huge obstacle in communicating medical conditions and information to patients, and this issue is compounded with patients whose primary language is not English. To tackle these obstacles, we simplified an original health document from a higher reading level to one that fits the needs of a group of IEP students at a 3rd-4th grade reading level.

Methods



Problems with CDC Document

The reading level and vocabulary of the original document are too advanced for our intended audience and the scientific concepts it contains are beyond the understanding of the IEP students. Also, there is a lack of cultural diversity in the original document.

Reading Levels

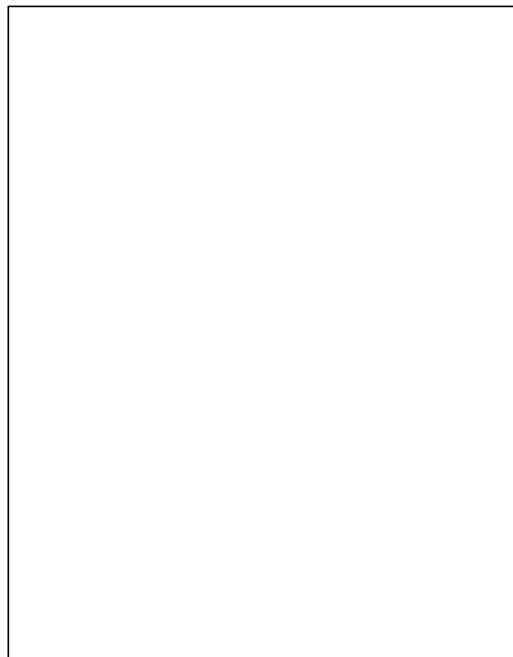
Results	Original Document	Revised Document
Flesch-Kincaid Test	Grade 8	Grade 3.7
SMOG Test	Grade 10.5	Grade 7.7

Revisions

To make our document more effective for the IEP students, we simplified a lot of the medical jargon and made it easier to read, shortened some sentences, and listed information in bullet point format. To make the document more visually appealing, we changed the color scheme and included images that would make the concepts easier to understand.

References

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Concussion Fact Sheet for Parents



Original Document from CDC



Revised Document

