

DISABILITIES:CONCEPT



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What is a Disability ?



A disability is a condition or function judged to be significantly impaired relative to the usual standard of an individual or group. The term is used to refer to individual functioning, including physical impairment, sensory impairment, cognitive impairment, intellectual impairment mental illness, and various types of chronic disease.



**Attitudes
are the Real
Disability**

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Disability is conceptualized as being a multidimensional experience for the person involved. There may be effects on organs or body parts and there may be effects on a person's participation in areas of life. Correspondingly, three dimensions of disability are recognized in ICF: body structure and function (and impairment thereof), activity (and activity restrictions) and participation (and participation restrictions). The classification also recognizes the role of physical and social environmental factors in affecting disability outcomes.

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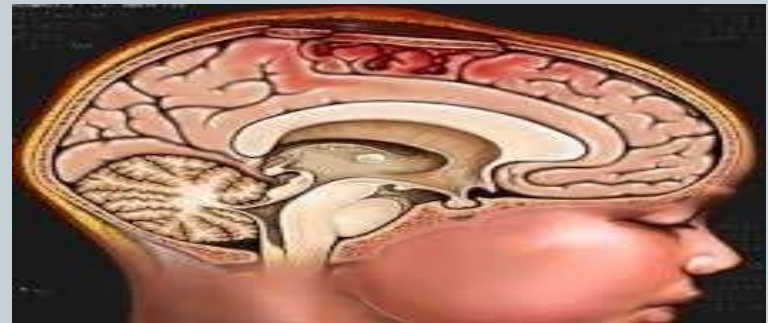
Disability was defined as "any restriction or lack (resulting from an impairment) of ability to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for a human being." An impairment does not necessarily lead to a disability, for the impairment may be corrected. I am, for example, wearing eye glasses, but do not perceive that any disability arises from my impaired vision. A disability refers to the function of the individual (rather than of an organ, as with impairment).



The World Health Organization defines Disability as follows:



"Disabilities is an umbrella term, covering impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions. An impairment is a problem in body function or structure; an activity limitation is a difficulty encountered by an individual in executing a task or action; while a participation restriction is a problem experienced by an individual in involvement in life situations. Thus disability is a complex phenomenon, reflecting an interaction between features of a person's body and features of the society in which he or she lives."



Causes of Disability



1. Prenatal

- Genetic, Chromosomal**
- Infections in mother**
- Exposure to toxic substances**
- Thyroid deficiency**
- Congenital defects in the brain**



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2. Perinatal

Deprivation of oxygen during birth

Abnormal fetal presentation

Difficulties during the process of labour

Injury to the brain & bleeding in the brain

Low weight baby

Breathing problems

Severe jaundice

Severe infection



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3. Postnatal

Infections of the brain

Iodine deficiency

Accidents & Head Injury → Bleeding & Hypoxia

Metabolic disorders : hypoglycemia, PKU

Malnutrition

**Environmental causes : Lack of love,
security, motivation, discipline**



EFFECT of DISABILITY



1. Physical

- Usually when people hear the word "disability," they think of physical disabilities. Many are born with physical disabilities and grow up dealing with the limitations they place on their activities and life choices. Others may start life as most everyone else but become disabled due to an illness or an accident. Physical disabilities may range from a stiff joint to major body trauma that puts the individual into a wheelchair. Physical disabilities vary widely, but all have the effect of putting limitations on the person with the disability. Some may not be able to tie a shoe. Others may not be able to reach down to even put on the shoe, but may learn to do so do by using special dressing aids. Still others are limited to the point of needing assistance with the most basic of human needs.

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2.Emotional

- Physical limitations, especially, when the individual has not always been disabled, affects a person emotionally. Those healing from an injury or illness, especially when it results in a lifetime impairment, deal with the emotional side of realizing they may never be able to swing a bat, run a race, walk or even dress themselves again. Depression, anger and blame are all effects of a disability and vie for time and consideration. Negative emotions must be dealt with in order to move on and to gain a foothold on healing physically as well as emotionally. How a person deals with the realities of the situation plays a part in living life to the fullest, even with limitations.

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4. Community

- Disabilities affect how a person is viewed by his community, his family and his friends. A disability may make others uncertain of how to approach or interact with the disabled person. Friendships and other relationships may be a casualty for a person already struggling with learning how to live with his new limitations. This is especially true if the person with the disability remains angry and pushes others away instead of allowing them to assist and "be there" for him. Another more positive effect of a disability, especially one from illness or accident, is when it pulls a community together in support.

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3. Psychological

- Those with disabilities often feel they are no longer whole, that they are somehow "less than," because they can no longer be what they once were or do what they once could. Those whose lives revolved around a certain activity, such as football, in which they can no longer participate may feel life is no longer worth living. Disabilities affect how a person views herself and plays a part in how hard that person will work to overcome that disability or in channelling that passion in other healthy directions.

Needs of children with disabilities

A. Normal needs :

- Medical care, immunization, play, education etc.

B. Special needs :

- Special services – physiotherapy, early intervention therapy
- Special aids – Hearing aids
- Special equipment – Calipers, shoes, wheel-chair
- Special Education

C. Care of the whole family



Educational Needs



- Main-stream education
- Remedial education
- Curriculum adjustment
- Changes in the examination pattern
- Concessions / Accommodations



Our Roles



- Developmental surveillance
- Identification of abnormality
- Assessment
- Remedial plan
- Treatment
- Rehabilitation
- Vocational training



THANKS



DID YOU KNOW ?

MARCH
is
National Developmental
and Intellectual
Disabilities Awareness
Month

