

3rd International Conference and Exhibition on

Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

May 18-20, 2015 San Antonio, USA

Measuring physical disability and associated health conditions among a group of urban dwelling community residents in Sri Lanka using international classification of functioning, disability and health (icf)

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Introduction: Physical disability is a complex, dynamic and a multidimensional issue. Physical disability has complex relationship with various health conditions. Generally, single or multiple health conditions may interact with personal and environmental factors to produce a physical disability. However, statistics on disability and associated health conditions are lacking worldwide. Objective: The objective of the present study was to describe the prevalence of physical disability and health conditions associated with physical disability. Method: A community based descriptive cross sectional study was carried out among 2460 adults aged 18 to 59 years selected using cluster sampling in Kandy Municipal Council area in Central Sri Lanka. Physical disability was defined for the present study using International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF). Physical disability was measured using a clinical examination and World Health Organization Disability Assessment Schedule II. An interviewer administered questionnaire was administered to obtain demographic and socioeconomic data and associated health conditions information. Informed written consent was obtained from all study participants and ethical approval was granted by the ethical review committee of University of Peradeniya.

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