On behalf of the ISPRM’s Executive Committee, I would like to cordially thank the Puerto Rican Society of PRM for their extraordinary commitment to organize ISPRM’s 6th World Congress in San Juan, Puerto Rico from June 12 to 16, 2011. ISPRM’s leadership clearly recognizes and highly appreciates the efforts of the Puerto Rico Society of PRM and particularly those of Drs. Veronica Rodriguez-De La Cruz, William Micheo, Maricarmen Cruz, and Walter Frontera who developed a gorgeous culture that integrates unique local traditions and an open international perspective making us all feel at home.

Each participant will have special memories of the 6th World Congress in Puerto Rico related to specific interests and interactions as well as colleagues from Puerto Rico and all over the world. Beyond that, the Puerto Rican Congress will be remembered for a number of highlights. From the ISPRM’s perspective, it will be remembered for the dedication of the congress to Dr. Herman Flax, the father of PRM in Puerto Rico. In this light, Prof. Dr. Zongyao Wu from China received the Herman Flax Lifetime Achievement Award for his extraordinary contribution to the development of PRM in China. Moreover, Prof. Dr. Walter R. Frontera Roura from Puerto Rico was given the Sydney Licht Lectureship Award for his outstanding contribution to the development of research capacity in PRM. For the first time, the newly created Haim Ring Memorial Award was accepted by Dr. Mark Young (Individual) from Baltimore (USA) and the New York University (NYU) Rusk (Institutional).

The Puerto Rico Congress will also be remembered for the first international symposium on rehabilitation after natural disaster as well as the WHO-ISPRM Session on the dissemination and implementation of the World Report on Disability launched a few days before the Congress at UN headquarters in New York on June 9, 2011. It is fair to conclude that the Congress in Puerto Rico and the launch of the WHO World Report on Disability truly mark the beginning of the second decade of ISPRM.
6TH WORLD CONGRESS OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE, 12 - 16 JUNE 2011, IN SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

Organizing Committee
Disability and Health-related Rehabilitation in International Disaster Relief

(This article was published in Global Health Action 2011, 4:7191 – DOI: 10.3402/gha.v410.7191.)

Jan D. Reinhardt, PhD1,2,3,*, Jianan Li, MD1,4, Jim Gosney, MD1,5, Farooq A. Rathore, MD1,6, Andrew J. Haig, MD1,7, Michael Marx, PhD8, Joel A. DeLisa, MD MS1,9

On behalf of the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine’s Sub-Committee on Rehabilitation Disaster Relief

Abstract

Background: Natural disasters result in significant numbers of disabling impairments. Paradoxically, however, the traditional health system response to natural disasters largely neglects health-related rehabilitation as a strategic intervention.

Objectives

To examine the role of health-related rehabilitation in natural disaster relief along three lines of inquiry: 1) epidemiology of injury and disability, 2) impact on health and rehabilitation systems and 3) the assessment and measurement of disability.

Design

Qualitative literature review and secondary data analysis.

Results

Absolute numbers of injuries as well as injury to death ratios in natural disaster have increased significantly over the last 40 years. Major impairments requiring health-related rehabilitation include amputations, traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, and long bone fractures. Studies show that persons with pre-existing disabilities are more likely to die in a natural disaster. Lack of health-related rehabilitation in natural disaster relief may result in additional burdening of health system capacity, exacerbating baseline weak rehabilitation and health system infrastructure. Little scientific evidence on the effectiveness of health-related rehabilitation interventions following natural disaster exists, however. Although systematic assessment and measurement of disability after natural disaster is currently lacking, new approaches have been suggested.

Conclusion

Health-related rehabilitation potentially results in decreased morbidity due to disabling injuries sustained during a natural disaster and is therefore an essential component of the medical response by the host and international communities. Significant systematic challenges to effective delivery of rehabilitation interventions during disaster include a lack of trained responders as well as lack of medical recordkeeping, data collection and established outcome measures. Additional development of health-related rehabilitation following natural disaster is urgently required.
The challenges for developing an enhanced rehabilitation disaster response are similarly shared by the broader global humanitarian disaster response community as demonstrated by the recent roundtable discussion, “Earthquake Relief in Haiti: Inter-Organizational Perspectives and Lessons for the Future”, at Harvard University. The roundtable provided an opportunity for many foreign medical organizations and other humanitarian agencies from the international disaster response community to reflect upon successes, challenges, and strategies for improving disaster response based upon lessons learned in Haiti where the January 2010 earthquake left hundreds of thousands dead, injured and displaced.

Four focal topics were addressed: delivery of service, interagency collaboration and coordination, communication, and accountability. The enlightening discussion was sponsored by the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, the Harvard Kennedy School’s Program on Crisis Leadership, the MGH Center for Global Health’s Office of Disaster Response and the Harvard Global Health Institute. Please click here (http://hhi.harvard.edu/programs-and-research/program-on-humanitarian-effectiveness/haiti-roundtable) for the full executive summary of the roundtable and to access preparation materials provided to the participants and the panel of participating organizations.

Acknowledgement: The CRDR gratefully acknowledges the roundtable sponsors for printing permission and Mr. Eric Goodwin, Project Coordinator of the Harvard Global Health Institute, for his editorial advice.
Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine - Table of Contents

Issue 9, September 2011 (Volume 43)

Aspects on the research fields “from cell to society”, clinical trials and research methodology, and report on impact
Gunnar Grimby

Towards a conceptual description of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine
Christoph Gutenbrunner, Thorsten Meyer, John Melvin, Gerold Stucki

Towards a conceptual description of rehabilitation as a health strategy
Thorsten Meyer, Christoph Gutenbrunner, Jerome Bickenbach, Alarcos Cieza, John Melvin, Gerold Stucki

Upper limb function in adults with Duchenne muscular dystrophy

Predicting self-reported recovery one year after major road traffic accident trauma
Hoang -Thy Nhac-Vu, Martine Hours, Pierrette Charnay, Laetitia Chossegros, Dominique Boisson, Jacques Luaute, Etienne Jouvey, Amina Ndiaye, Bernard Laumon

Poor prognostic factors in complex regional pain syndrome 1: A Delphi survey
Florian Brunner, Mara Nauer, Lucas M. Bachmann

Changes in gait symmetry, gait velocity and self-reported function following total hip replacement
Caroline Hodt-Billington, Jorunn L. Helbostad, Willemijn Vervaart, Turid Rognsvåg, Rolf Moe-Nilssen

Association of fear of movement and leisure-time physical activity among patients with chronic pain
Petteri Koho, Tage Orenius, Hannu Kautiainen, Maija Haanpää, Timo Pohjolainen, Heikki Hurri

Clinical benefits of the addition of lower extremity low-intensity resistance muscle training to early aerobic endurance training intervention in patients with coronary artery disease: A randomized controlled trial
Dominique Hansen, Bert O. Eijnde, Machteld Roelants, Tom Broekmans, Jean-Luc Rummens, Karen Hensen, Annick Daniels, Monique Van Erum, Kim Bonné, Ilse Reyckers, Toon Alders, Jan Berger, Paul Dendale

Hand-held dynamometry: tester strength is paramount, even in frail populations
Carol A. Stone, Brid Nolan, Peter G. Lawlor, Rose Anne Kenny

Commentary on ”Spasticity or reversible muscle hypertonia?”
Pavel G. Lindberg, Marc A. Maier, Jörgen Borg

Commentary on ”Spasticity or Reversible Muscle Hypertonia?”
Anthony B. Ward

Response to Lindbergs et al.’s and Ward’s commentaries
Abdel Magid O. Bakheit, Klemens Fheodoroff, Franco Molteni

2nd Baltic and North Sea Conference on Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine “From Biomechanisms to Outcomes!”
Executives & Committees

**President’s Cabinet**

- **Gerold Stucki**
  - President
- **Joel De Lisa**
  - Past President
- **Marta Imamura**
  - President Elect
- **Jianan Li**
  - Vice President
- **Jorge Lains**
  - Secretary
- **John Olver**
  - Treasurer

**Assistants**

- **Marco Franceschini**
  - Assistant Secretary
- **Nachum Soroker**
  - Assistant Treasurer

**Honorary Presidents & Council of Presidents**

- **Chang-il Park**
- **Linamara Battistella**
- **John Melvin**

**Regional Vice Presidents**

- **Alessandro Giustini**
  - Europe
- **Juan Manuel Guzmán González**
  - Latin America
- **Maher Saad Al Jadid**
  - Africa & Middle East
- **Simon Fuk-Tan Tang**
  - Asia & Oceania
- **Walter Frontera**
  - North America

**Executive Director**

- **Werner Van Cleemputte**

**Members of the News & Views sub-committee**

- **Walter R. Frontera**
  - Interim Chair
- **Randall Braddom**
- **Jorge Lains**
- **Jianan Li**
- **Leonard Li**
- **Anton Wicker**
- **S. Mansoor Rayegani**

**Representatives of the Members**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVE INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS</th>
<th>ACTIVE NATIONAL SOCIETIES MEMBERS</th>
<th>REPRESENTATIVES ISPRM WORLD CONGRESSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark Young</td>
<td>Deog Young Kim</td>
<td>2011 Puerto Rico - Verónica Rodríguez de la Cruz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>María Amparo Martínez Assucena</td>
<td>Leonardo SW Li</td>
<td>2013 China - Jianan Li</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2015 Berlin - Christoph Gutenbrunner, Veronika Fialka-Moser</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ISPRM World Congresses**

- **7th Congress**
  - June 16 - 20, 2013
  - Beijing, China
- **8th Congress**
  - June, 2014
  - Cancun, Mexico
- **9th Congress**
  - June 06 - 11, 2015
  - Berlin, Germany

**Conferences on:**

- **Stroke**
  - www.internationalstroke.org/s_content.php?id=fb2002-03-04-1020
- **Neurology**
  - www.eurostroke.org/esc_main%20links.htm
- **Neurorehab**
  - www.wfnr.co.uk/docs/events.htm
- **Spine**
  - www.spine.org/calendar/nass_future_events.cfm
- **Brain Injury**
  - www.internationalbrain.org/content.php?pages=congress
- **Osteoporosis**
  - www.iofbonehealth.org/meetings-events.html

(*) = congresses offering reduced registration fees for ISPRM members
2011

- 19th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, Conjoint Meeting with ANZSC0S. 13-17 September, Brisbane, Queensland. Email: spinalrehab2011@tcc.co.nz


- Translating Evidence into Practice – 10th International IACFS/ME Research and Clinical Conference. 22-25 September, Ottawa, Canada. Website: http://www.mefmaction.net/


- Ageing Well Together – Regional Perspective; 9th Asia/Oceania Regional Congress of Geriatrics and Gerontology. 23-27 October, Website: http://www.ageing2011.com/

- 7th European Congress of Sports Medicine and 3rd Central European Congress of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in 26-29 October, Salzburg, Austria. Website: www.sportsmed-pmr-2011.at

- 26th Annual Meeting of the North American Spine Society, 1-5 November, Chicago, USA. Website: www.spine.org

- International Multidisciplinary Forum on Palliative Care. 11-14 November, Budapest, Hungary. Website: www.imfpc.org

- XXth World Congress of Neurology. 12-18 November, Marrakesh, Morocco. Website: www2.kenes.com/wcn/Pages/.aspxHome

- 72nd Annual Assembly of the AAPM&R, 17-20 November, Orlando, Florida, USA. Website: www.aapmr.org

- International Meeting of the Egyptian Society of Rheumatology and Rehabilitation and PanArab Congress of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. 30 November–3 December, 2011, Cairo, Egypt. Website: www.egyrar.com

2012

- Ninth World Congress on Brain Injury, 22-25 March, Edinburgh, Scotland, Visit: www.internationalbrain.org/


- 3rd Conference of the Asian Oceania Society of PRM (AOSPRM), 17-19 May, Bali, Indonesia. Contact: aosprmbali@pharma-pro.com

- Spineweek, Third Combined Congress of the Different Spine Societies, 27 May - 1 June, RAI Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Info congresses@medicongress.com – Website www.spineweek2012.org


73rd Annual Assembly of the AAPM&R, in conjunction with the ISPRM Interim Board Meeting 15-18 November, Atlanta, Georgia, USA. www.aapmr.org

2013


2014


2015

- 9th ISPRM World Congress, June 06 – 11, 2015, Berlin, Germany www.isprm2015.org