

# Barriers and Opportunities to the Implementation of a Comprehensive Rehabilitation Strategy in Post-Earthquake Haiti

Andree LeRoy, MD

Cheri Blauwet, MD

Department of PM&R

Spaulding Rehabilitation Network/Harvard Medical School



Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation  
Harvard Medical School



Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Brigham & Women's Hospital



# Introduction



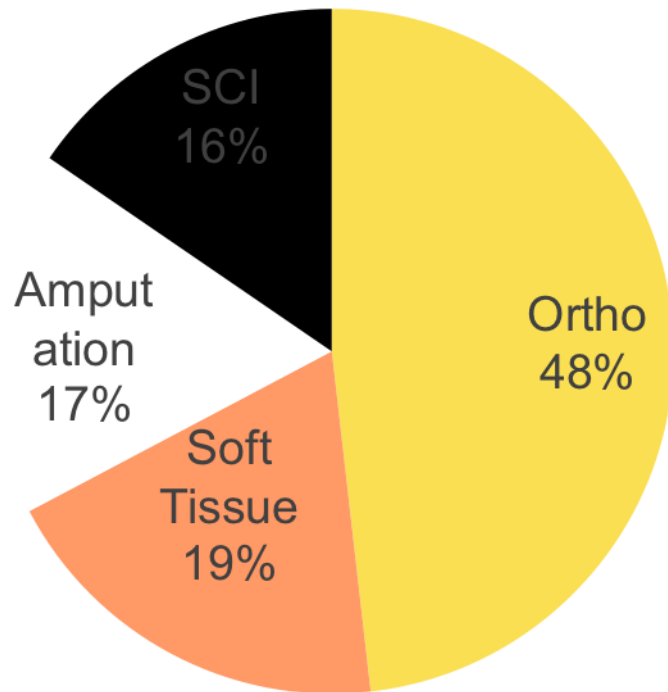
- Disability prevalence observation
- Notable themes
- Implementing models
- Disaster relief to development



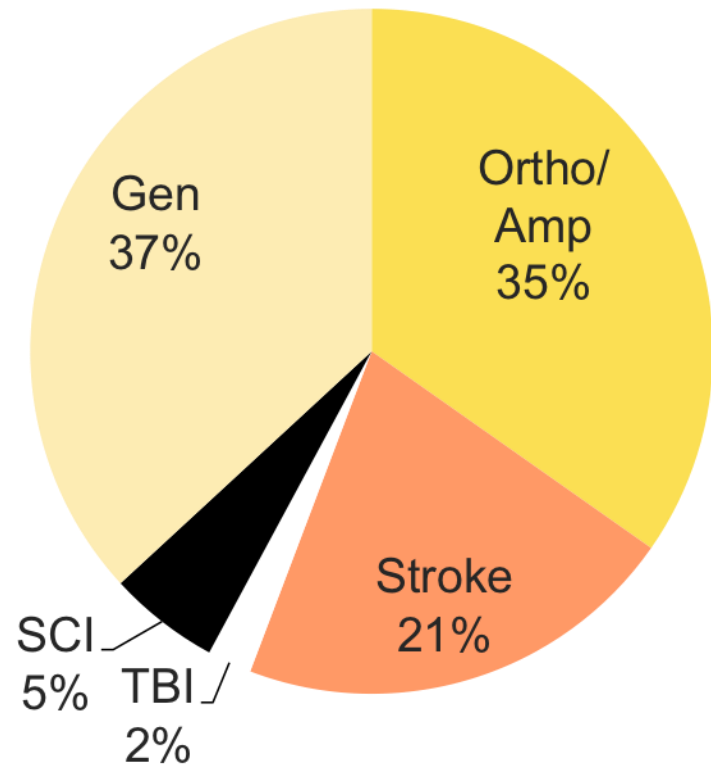
# Distribution of Diagnoses

l'Hopital Bon Saveur Cange Haiti

Jan-10



Apr-10



# Notable Themes

- Limited rehabilitation infrastructure
- Disparities for people with disabilities
- Positive influences of peer mentoring and international pressure of disability rights organizations



# Rehabilitation Models

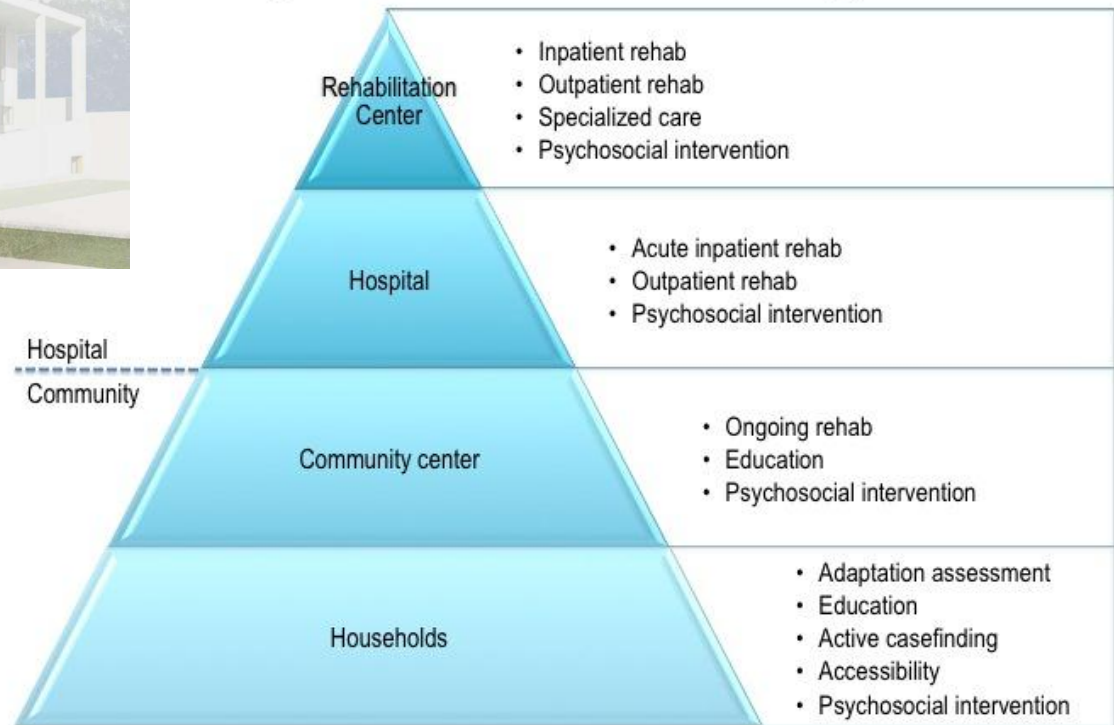
- Urgent need for comprehensive models
- Priorities:
  - Link between community-based and institution-based rehabilitation
  - Further education on fundamentals of PM&R
  - PWD must be involved at all times
  - Implementation in partnership with Ministry of Health for sustainability



# Sant pou Ekselans nan Reyabilitasyon ak Edikasyon



## Integrated Rehabilitation Program



# Acknowledgements

- Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Spaulding Rehabilitation Network/Harvard Medical School
- Partners in Health
  - *Koji Nakashima MD, Megan Brock DPT*
  - *Emmie Kumbikano Rehab Tech*
- Our colleagues, friends, and family
  - **and most importantly -**
- The people of Haiti



# References

Iezzoni LI, Ronan, LJ. Disability Legacy of the Haitian Earthquake. *Annals of Internal Medicine* 2010; 152:812-814.

O'Connell C, Shivji A, Calvot T. Handicap International Report: Preliminary

Findings About Persons With Injuries. Handicap International, January 29, 2010.

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/>

Raissi, GR. Earthquakes and Rehabilitation Needs: Experiences From Bam, Iran. *J Spinal Cord Med.* 2007;30:369–372.

Haig AJ, Im J, Adewole A, Nelson V, Krabak B. The practice of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in Sub Saharan Africa: white paper or black mark? *PM R* 2009 Nov; 1(11); 1048.

United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Optional Protocol. Accessed at <http://www.un.org/disabilities/> on Mar 24 2011.

World Report on Disability. World Health Organization. Accessed [http://www.who.int/disabilities/world\\_report/2011/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/disabilities/world_report/2011/en/index.html) on Jun 10 2011.

