

Health care accessibility for disabled persons in Morocco

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Abstract:

Disabled persons have similar health care needs as normal subjects. But they have a health care accessibility problem; they are twice confronted with insufficient competence, or inadequate facilities, rejected three times and maltreatment victims four times.

In Morocco persons with Disabilities are confronted to exclusion because of improper medical care. The number of Moroccan disabled persons is 2.264.672 (6,4%) of the population in 2015. The prevalence rate is higher among people aged over 60 years old (33.7%) due to certain diseases and conditions that lead to disability and dependence. Among of population aged from 15 to 59 years old, it accounting for 4.8% while it was 1.8% among people aged under 15. According to education level (≥ 5 years), people with low instruction levels are most affected by the disability.

Since 1959, Salé rehabilitation center started take caring of disabled persons specially contaminated oil victims, by offering them rehabilitation programs. However, this service was oriented to rheumatology.

In 1994 was the creation of Moroccan association for disabled persons (AMH).

The first royal speech was pronounced in 1999 getting disabled persons a new place in Moroccan society with equal rights of health care, education, work....

Unfortunately, this health care strategy was restrained due to PMR physicians' insufficiency, low hospital bed capacity.

There is a health policy for disabled persons but without understanding the interest of medical care for disability (PMR) that will coordinate with different fields. There isn't collaboration between rehabilitation centers and between the rehabilitation team and PMR physicians.

Health care accessibility for disabled persons needs qualified paramedical human resources, more budget positions for PMR physicians and more PMR hospital beds, specialised units and PMR medical act nomenclature.