

Keynote title:

User Centric Wheelchair Service Provision in India- A Deccanum Ride

Abstract:

According to Census 2011, 27 million people in India suffer from disabilities, among whom 20% of them have a mobility problem and at least one million people with disabilities require a wheelchair. Without the right wheelchair, persons with mobility disabilities are left isolated socially and economically, with little or no access to healthcare, education, employment and unable to participate in social and family life. COVID-19 pandemic has further isolated this population. An appropriate wheelchair fosters up opportunities for people with disabilities to study, work, engage in social activities and access services such as healthcare, education, skill development and employment. In addition to providing mobility, it benefits the physical health and quality of life of the users by helping in reducing common problems such as pressure sores, progression of deformities and improve respiration and digestion.

The session focuses on a experiences gathered and data collected to understand the impact of wheelchair services established in less resourced setting towards the greater sustainability in India. Three broad scope of this presentation are a. to understand the extent of persons with disabilities perceptions on access a quality of wheelchairs made available which follow WHO compliant service provision and associated follow-up services b. to understand organizations creating a hub mechanism for provision of wheelchair services available in the community c. to disseminate the experience of Motivation India on resources required toward paradigm shift of kind to service provision of wheelchair and seating solutions

Learning Outcomes:

- Participants will be able to understand the good practices of developing sustainable wheelchair services and trained human resources in the community.
- Participants will be able to identify the resource required and understand the success and challenges in less resourced setting for wheelchairs and seating.

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