



# Global Launch

Learning, Acting, and Building for  
Rehabilitation in Health Systems

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# Welcome

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**Director, Johns Hopkins**  
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**Barbara McPake, PhD**  
**Director, Nossal Institute of Global Health**  
**Co-Program Director, ReLAB-HS**



# Session One

## Health Systems and Rehabilitation: Status of the field and opportunities



# Session Chair

**David H. Peters, MD DrPH**

**Edgar Berman Chair in  
International Health**

**Johns Hopkins Bloomberg  
School of Public Health**





# Rehabilitation 2030: Expanding access to rehabilitation services globally

**Alarcos Cieza, PhD**

**Unit Head, Vision, Hearing,  
Disability, Rehabilitation,  
World Health Organization**



# Health Systems of the Future: Where does Rehabilitation fit?

**Abdul Ghaffar, PhD**

**Executive Director, Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research**

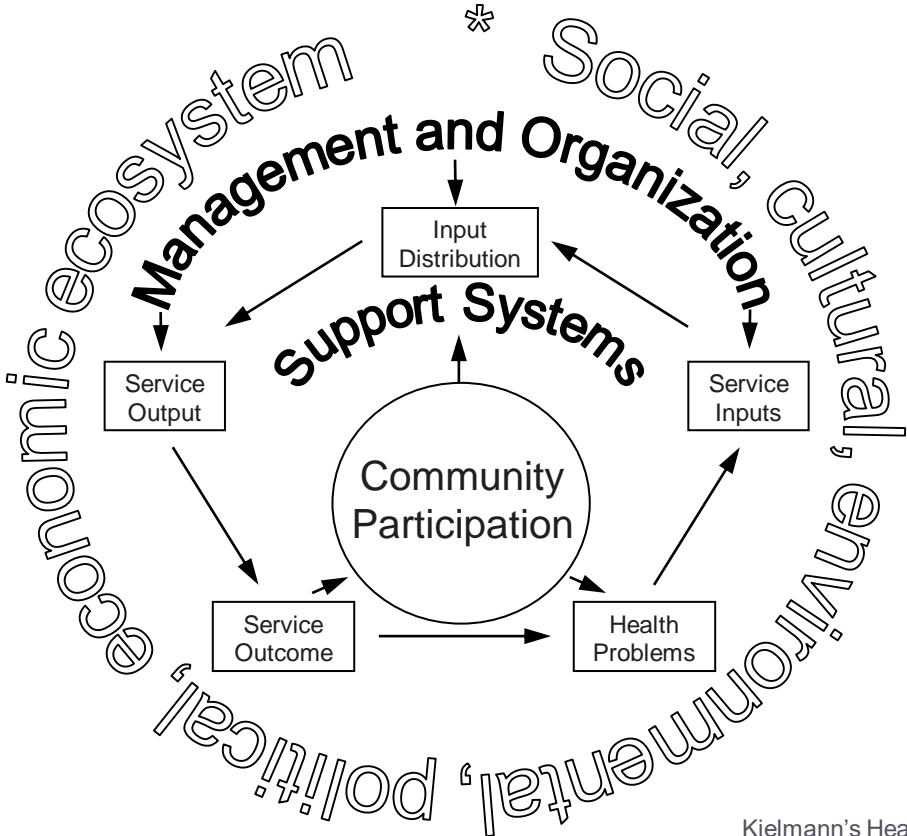
# Health Systems of the Future: Where does Rehabilitation fit?

Abdul Ghaffar, PhD

Executive Director,  
Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research

24th February 2021

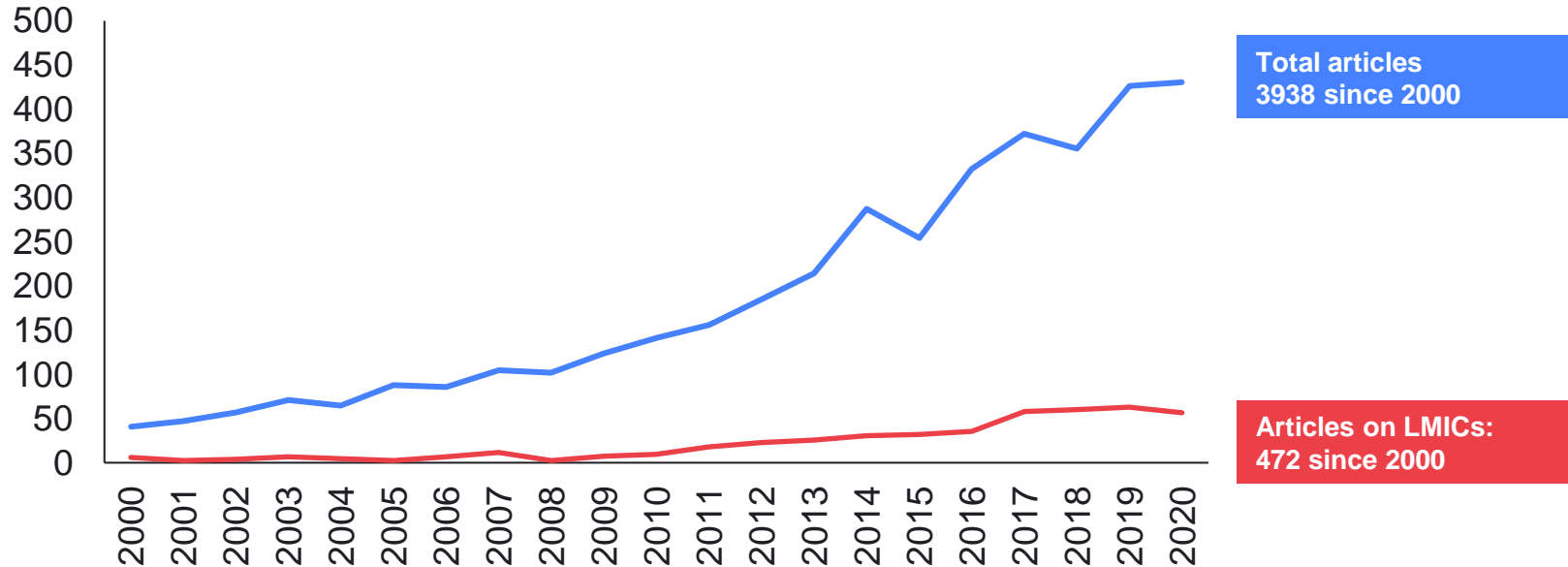
# A model for health systems



# Progress and limitations – Research on rehabilitation and access

## Journal articles on rehabilitation and access

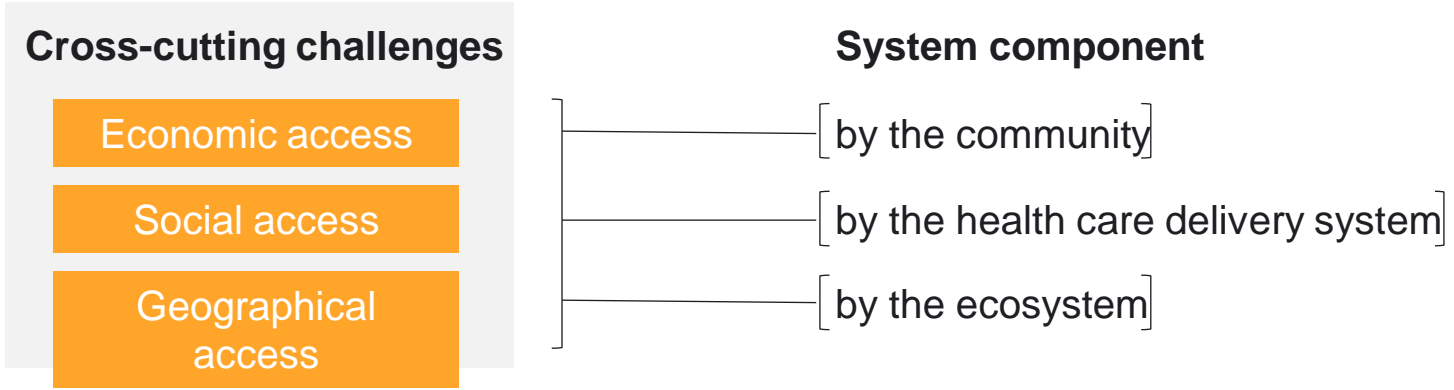
Number of articles in respective year



Note: Bibliometric search on the simultaneous occurrence of „rehabilitation“ and “access” in the title and/or abstract of the article. LMIC differentiation by taking the subset of the overall articles that explicitly named at least one of the LMICs. Source: PubMed, 23.02.2021. Author’s analysis.



# Relating access challenges to health systems





# Potential interventions to improve health systems for rehabilitation

- 1 Increased community awareness, resulting in community participation
- 2 More responsive and prepared delivery systems
- 3 Better ecosystems for access to health services for rehabilitation
- 4 More local (context-specific) policy relevant knowledge  
→ generation and use of HPSR with focus on rehabilitation



# Discussion: Opportunities and Challenges for Integrating Rehabilitation Services into Health Systems





# Session Two

## Introducing ReLAB-HS



**Rachael Lowe**  
**Co-founder and President,**  
**Physiopedia**



**Daphne Sorensen**  
**President, MiracleFeet**



# Learning, Acting and Building for Rehabilitation in Health Systems Consortium



# Partnership



A consortium of organizations with expertise in health systems, implementation science, workforce development and service delivery innovations

- Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health's International Injury Research Unit
- Nossal Institute for Global Health at the University of Melbourne
- Humanity & Inclusion
- MiracleFeet
- Physiopedia
- UCP Wheels for Humanity



# Challenges



- Fragile health systems
- Limited policies and resources (financial and non-financial)
- Limited consideration of rehabilitation care (access, affordability, accessibility)
- Limited evidence to understand and support rehabilitation need
- Limited local capacity including technical support
- Stigma and marginalization
- **Health systems struggle to respond to the change brought about by populations and health systems in transition**



# Aim



To contribute to **global efforts** to strengthen rehabilitation in health systems and support the development of health systems that are **inclusive of rehabilitation care** including assistive technology.

- Long-term goal to:
  - Improve the health and well-being of the population
  - Provide down-stream benefits in terms of future health care costs, increased productivity and social inclusion

# Approach

- Person-centered
- Life span approach
- Stakeholder engagement
- Co-design and implement innovative, comprehensive, cost-effective interventions
- Developing local capacity of providers and decision-makers
- Principles of implementation science and systems thinking





# Leadership

Supporting **rehabilitation sector leaders** to catalyze and strengthen a national and sub-national agenda for rehabilitation in health systems



Generating **new information and evidence** about the integration of rehabilitation in health systems through policy simulation, rehabilitation assessment modules



# Engagement

Stakeholder **engagement** to use new evidence for policy and to support leadership and capacity development



Supporting the **workforce at all levels of care** to improve rehabilitation capacity and links between health systems and rehabilitation care, and through targeted rehabilitation task-sharing





# Service Delivery



Developing and testing **rehabilitation service delivery models** that are assistive technology inclusive and use telerehabilitation technology





# Panel: How can ReLAB-HS shape the health systems of the future?



**Perth Rosen**  
**Senior Director of Programs and  
Operations, UCP Wheels for  
Humanity**



**Lesya Kalandyak**  
**Rehabilitation and Assistive  
Technology Technical  
Coordinator, UCP-Wheels for  
Humanity, Ukraine**





**Muhammad Iqbal**  
**Disability and Gender Specialist,  
Humanity & Inclusion**



**Chiara Retis**  
**Rehabilitation Specialist,**  
**Humanity & Inclusion – Asia**



How can ReLAB-HS  
shape the health  
systems of the  
future?





# Closing

## Nabeel Akram




**Nabeel Akram**  
**Director Operations, ReLAB-HS**



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