

International Symposium: Evidence in Global Disability and Health

ABSTRACT	
Title:	Understanding effectiveness of CBR in disability based rehabilitation: A basic study across partner organisations of CHAI
Abstract text (limited to 300 words, should include background, methods, results and conclusions):	
<p>Persons with disability have been the most marginalised sections and have been deprived even of their basic rights and needs. As per a World Bank Report, close to 16 percent of the disabled population lives in poorer areas¹. Moreover around 80 percent of the disabled population in India belongs to the rural areas as per Census 2001. It has also been found that only 2 percent of the disabled population has access to rehabilitation and other services². In view of this, community based rehabilitation (CBR) has emerged as a holistic approach in bringing services to the community irrespective of factors such as poverty, geographical locations, availability and access to services and human resources. Since 1994, Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI) has been working extensively on children and youth with disabilities across India. The thematic areas of intervention include health, education, livelihood and inclusion - activities of which are carried out by partner organizations of CHAI located across the country.</p> <p>The purpose of this study is to understand the perceptions of the partner organisations on the effectiveness of CBR. The study also looks at how CBR interventions have changed the lives of children with disabilities in different ways.</p> <p>This study adopts a mixed methodology and is primarily quantitative and supplemented through qualitative data. The participants of the study are from the partner organisations implementing the programme as well as the intended beneficiaries. Data has been collected from 218 partner organisations through a questionnaire by using the 5-point Likert scale. Documented case studies have also been referred to highlight the CBR interventions undertaken.</p> <p>It was found that 78 percent of the partner organisations are involved in CBR activities. 72 percent feel that CBR is a highly effective approach. It is also interesting to note that none of them were of the opinion that CBR is ineffective. The supplemented case studies also highlight the success of a few CBR based initiatives. This shows that there is positive shift or trend toward CBR activities by the disability based organisations partnering with CHAI.</p>	

¹ Ann Elwan, Poverty and Disability, A Literature Review, World Bank, October 1999.

² Leandro Despouy, 1993, Human Rights and Disabled Persons, United Nations

