

Editorial Note

The management of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) has the purpose to prevent disability and maintain of the human function. Indeed, it is necessary to establish an appropriate diagnosis, as well as to determine the risk factors that are expected to aggravate the health problem and increase the disability. In fact, in medical practice, PM&R doctors face problems that need them to integrate with other medical specialists and also consider the characteristics of the subject. Thus the PM&R doctors should have the ability to analyze the connection between medical conditions (pathology), with risk factors, and characteristics of the patients, as well as their function.

There are many health problems that can increase disability, at several different periods of the human life. For example, in children there is the problem of cerebral palsy, then in the adolescence, there are scoliosis that are often undetected, low back pain in the productive adult, while in the elderly, there is high prevalence of osteoarthritis of the knee, which can be exacerbated by obesity.

The Health problems that are not detected or not handled properly, may increase the risk of disability. Moreover, identification of the risk factors are very important to prevent the deterioration of the pathologic condition, and to decrease the disability. However, some of the risk factors are considered as the simple things, such as obesity, physical activity, cognitive function, and educational level, thus finally being neglected and considered to be some natural condition.

As a conclusion is identifying the risk factors carefully as well as establish the functional diagnosis are the important elements in health care, especially in the prevention of the disability.

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