Accessibility evaluation of physically disable persons at government hospitals in Peshawar, Pakistan

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Abstract
Objective: to determine the accessibility of special people in different hospitals and this aim of the study was to promote and recognize the importance that people with disability have equal right to be respected, honoured and to live a peaceful life with all facilities of movement and recreation
Design: An Analytical descriptive study design, In which American Disabilities Act (ADA) checklist were used.
SETTING: Study was conducted at 3 different government hospitals in Peshawar. Study duration was 6 months and Convenience sampling technique was used
Results: The total sample size was three, in which we checked the entering accessibility, waiting room, sign in waiting room, inferior routes, registration center, Ramps, Ramp turning surface, Edge protection of ramps, toilet room, urinals, wheel chair, wheel chair in toilet compartment.
Conclusion: According to American Disabilities Act ADA checklist it is concluded that there is no proper accessibility, infrastructure of PWDs didn't meet the standards of universal accessibility; there is no proper sign and direction is present for physically disable persons.

Keywords: disability, health care, PWDS**,** American disability act

Introduction

Disability is a state of decreased functioning associated with disease like diabetes, cancer, disorder, road traffic injury, or other health conditions, which in the context of one's environment is experienced as an impairment, activity limitation, or participation restriction.

However When we describe disability, though, we should be sure to separate factual representations of the experience of disability from the happiness of a person with that experience. Although similarly relevant, disabilities evidence is an objective classification that varies from subjective evaluations. Data on quality of living, well-being and personal happiness with living are helpful for health and policy making, although the existence of disability does not generally predict those data [1].

According to the WHO old estimates, which date from the 1970s and suggested a figure of around 10%. This global estimate for disability is on the rise due to population increasing ageing and the rapid spread of chronic diseases, as well as improvements in the methodologies used to measure disability According to the new WHO new report one billion people, 15 per cent of the world population, are estimated to have a disability of which 110–190 million have very significant difficulties in functioning [2]. Many of these people lack fair access to health care, education, work opportunities and other required services [1]. One of the obstacles preventing their access to future freedom and their use of public spaces is lack of attention to their physical and mobility needs, resulting in their human rights being segregated and robbed [3].

To the best of my knowledge, no study has been conducted on this issue in Peshawar. My research will be focusing on the issue of physical accessibility for persons with disabilities so as to highlight accessibility issues, draw the attention of the relevant authorities and to create awareness about universal accessibility for person with disabilities [4, 5].

Rationale

1. Understanding the mobility and access challenges faced by physically disabled people in Peshawar tertiary care hospital and recognizing concrete measures that can be taken to begin solving problems.
2. Highlight accessibility problems of people with disability.
3. The social aim of this study is to integrate disabled people into society in order for them to take an active part in society and lead a normal life.

Objectives

1. The aim of the study was to check the accessibility of people in different hospitals.
2. This aim of the study was to promote and recognize the importance that people with disability have equal right to be respected, honored and to live a peaceful life with all facilities of movement and recreation.

Operational Definition

Disability: A physical or mental condition that limits a person's movements, or activities

Rehabilitation: To return someone to a productive position in society or to treat physical disabilities through means of prosthetics or orthotics, electrotherapy and exercises.

Service: Work carried out by one individual or group which benefits another.

PWDs: People with disabilities.

Physical accessibility

To provide additional facilities to allow all persons to live freely on an equal footing and free from social and physical obstacles.

KTH: Khyber teaching hospital
LRH: Lady reading hospital Peshawar
HMC: Hayatabad medical complex

Methods and materials

Study design

An Analytical descriptive study design, in which American Disabilities Act (ADA) checklist were used.

Study setting

Study was conducted at government hospitals in Peshawar.

Study duration

The duration of the study was six month.

Sample size

Sample size was three.

Sampling technique

Convenience sampling technique was used.

Sample Selection

Inclusion criteria

- Hayatabad medical complex
- Khyber teaching hospital
- Lady reading hospital

Data Collection Procedure

Data was collected from public tertiary care hospitals by using American Disability Act (ADA) checklist.

Data Analysis Procedure

Data was analyzed by using statistical packages for social sciences (SPSS) version 26.

Results

Hospitals

This research survey was conducted at different tertiary care hospital present at Peshawar, namely Hayat Medical Hospital, Khyber Teaching Hospital and Lady Reading Hospital Peshawar. The following are all the graph that was analyze by using SPSS version 26.

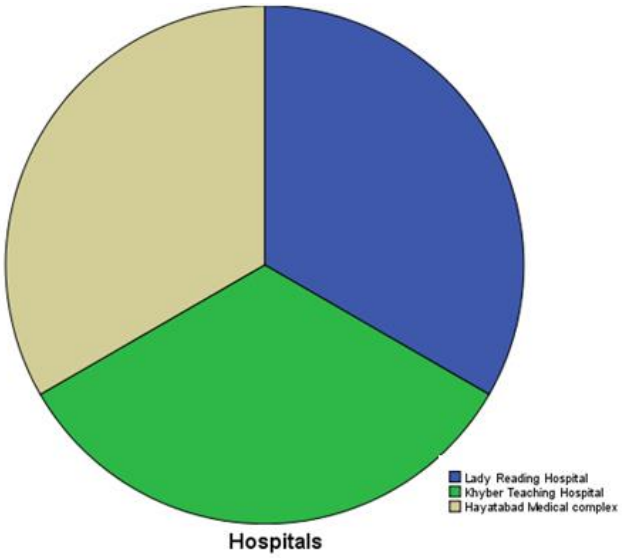

Fig 1

The total sample size was three, in which I checked the entering accessibility, sign for the PWDs, washroom accessibility anterior root exterior root, parking facility, size of the ramps and table availability.

Table 1: List of Facilities in different Government hospitals in Peshawar

S/No	Facilities	Hospital 1	Hospital 2	Hospital 3	Percentage
1	Gate	Present	Present	Present	100%
2	Parking	Present	Present	Absent	66.6%
3	Waiting Room	Present	Present	Present	100%
4	Sign and direction for PWDs	Absent	Absent	Absent	0%
5	Inferior Routes	Absent	Present	Present	66.6%
6	Registration Center Approach	Absent	Absent	Absent	0%

7	Ramps	Present	Absent	Present	66.6%
8	Ramp turning surface	Present	Absent	Absent	33.3%
9	Edge protection of the ramps	Present	Absent	Absent	333.3%
10	Toilet room	Absent	Present	Absent	33.3%
11	Urinals	Absent	Absent	Absent	0%
12	Wheelchair	Absent	Absent	Absent	0%
13	Wheelchair in toilet compartment:	Absent	Absent	Absent	0%

1. Gate

The first step that we were checked in the hospitals was gate, because the gate is the first entering in to the hospitals. According to the ADA checklist the gate was full accessible for all PWDs.

2. Parking

When we visit to the different hospitals that were present at Peshawar and check the parking area the two hospitals were accessible for parking and one hospital was non-accessible. The following chart is showing the result.

3. Waiting Room

Using ADA checklist when we check the waiting rooms, the waiting rooms was completely accessible for all those patients which is having Somme sort of disability or having some physical disability. The result is given in the following chart.

4. Sign in waiting room

When we checked the waiting room the waiting room for PWDs was accessible but the sign and direction for PWDs was completely absent, there were no direction and sign was present in all the three hospitals. The result is shown in the following chart.

5. Inferior Routes

According the data collected from different hospitals and using ADA checklist the inferior route of the mostly hospitals was non accessible and the only one hospital was accessible. The result is shown in the following chart.

6. Registration Center

While using the ADA checklist provided the registration center was completely non-accessible. When we check and measure the height, as a result the height was too much the PWDs approach was difficult. And the result is given in the following pie chart.

7. Ramps

While using the ADA checklist the when we check the ramps according the measurement given the most of the hospitals was non-accessible, the accessibility and non-accessibility ratio is given in the following chart.

8. Ramp turning surface

While using the ADA checklist when we check the ramp turning surface those which was accessible for ramp, they were accessible but they were not accessible for ramp turning surface.

9. Edge protection of the ramps

While using ADA checklist when we check the ramps edge protection, all those hospitals which were accessible to ramps facility were also accessible to the edge protection of the ramps. The result is shown in the following pie chart.

10. Toilet room

While using ADA checklist when we check the toilet room, the toilet room was accessible in most of the hospitals and some of them was not accessible toilet room. The result is shown in the following chart.

11. Urinals

While using ADA checklist when we check the urinals, the urinals were completely absent and there was even one urinal were present in all hospitals. All the hospitals were non-accessible to urinals facility. There were no concept present of the urinals system. The result is shown in the following chart.

12. Wheelchair

While using ADA checklist when we check the wheelchairs facility, the wheelchairs facility was present especially in the emergency area in all the tertiary care hospitals. The result is shown in the following chart.

13. Wheelchair in toilet compartment

While using ADA checklist when we check the wheelchairs compartment facility, the wheelchairs compartment facility was completely out absent. The result is shown in the following chart.

Discussion

Three samples size were considered and take data from three different tertiary care hospitals. Data was collected using American disability Act (ADA) checklist, which included several of measurement and building infrastructure about universal accessibility of PWDs, access to different places present at hospitals, environmental barriers, physical barriers in infrastructure, mobility of physically disable person in tertiary care hospitals [1].

From the whole result of the study it is clear that accessibility of people which is having physical disability is a big issue in tertiary care hospitals present at Peshawar. While using the ADA checklist most of the places present at different hospitals were not accessible for the PWDs [6]. There was no specific arrangement present for PWDs in all the tertiary care hospitals present in Peshawar. More specifically according to the results there were no specific sign was present all the washroom was non- accessible there was no concepts of urinals present in all the given hospitals [3].

According to the result there were no access of PWDs in toilet room present at Peshawar and when present there was no sign present. The ramp facility was present for normal person but there were no specific ramps present that were easily accessible for PWDs [7]. When I focused on the interior route there were no specific signboards present to direct the PWDs. If PWDs came to hospitals there was no sign toward wheelchair and itself the wheelchair was not fully accessible for PWDs.

All the measures above were focused to evaluate the accessibility of PWDs in different tertiary care hospitals in

Peshawar and to mentioned determined variables to the people with disabilities in order to know about the fact and figures in real world environment because this community comprises a considerable percentage of our population which in fact can contribute to the wellbeing of overall society but only if opportunity of accessibility is provided that will allow them to deliver better [2]. But, the current scenario as based on the research outcomes has shown major short comings in the current system which somehow is the alarming situation because this population needs to be promoted towards more and more usefulness along with self-reliance but no matter how serious steps are taken to motivate them to the path of success in their life [8], these issues need to be addressed on serious note in order come up with best possible and lasting solution to build the map for prosperous future for them and society as a whole [4].

Conclusion

According to results based upon American Disabilities Act ADA checklist it is concluded that there is no proper accessibility of PWDs is present in all tertiary care hospitals that is present in Peshawar. The entire tertiary care hospitals infrastructure didn't meet the standards of universal accessibility; there is no proper sign and direction is present for all those physically disable persons. There is no specific attention given to PWDs. There is no such facility present at all the government building that is present in Peshawar. There are no tertiary care hospitals present that are fully accessible for physically disable person.

There are many physical barriers in existing infrastructure in the hospitals and other government buildings, like the entrance and parking area, ramps, no proper exterior route and interior route and no accessible waiting room, front disk, bed, wheelchair and washroom etc present for people which is having functional abnormalities [9].

Limitations

1. The duration of research survey was too short.
2. One person was not enough for checking, measuring and recording the information.
3. Data collection tools was not present as per ADA checklist requirements.

Recommendations

Environments can either push people with disabilities in darks or either portray their hidden talent, improving access to hospitals, other different buildings, and communication can enable environment government and non-governments authorities should put their efforts and make all the tertiary care hospitals in Peshawar an accessible for people with disabilities.

Making progress in accessibility of tertiary care hospitals in Peshawar require engagement of government and non-government authorities, international organization, person with disabilities and their organizations.

The tertiary care hospitals in Peshawar city require improving the accessibility of people which is having physical disability and also people who other type of disabilities. All the disable people need special attention.

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Conflict Of Interest

Authors declare no conflict of interest.

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