



**International Conference:  
Evidence in Global Disability and Health**

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Yes/No **Yes**

## ABSTRACT

**Title:** 10 years' experience in Paediatric Rehabilitation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan, single centre study.

**Abstract text (limited to 300 words, should include background, methods, results and conclusions):**

### Introduction:

In late 2005 a pilot project was started in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Pakistan to offer free therapy services for Children with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities. Review of the then current facilities available in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Lahore, Islamabad and Karachi showed that there were many schools for children with special needs but the provision of paediatric rehabilitation was not available

### Method of Development:

January 2006 a clinic was opened in a rented premises. Staff training had begun two months previously and Physiotherapists and assistants began accepting referrals. Funding is securely in place and for the past 10 years a UK trained Paediatric Physiotherapists has been responsible for development of service and primary staff training. An on-site workshop provides standing frames, seating solutions and mobility aids, all freely given. The appliance officers work closely with clinicians assessing the child to provide customised aids. Local medical culture treats children as miniature adults. We have a commitment to family centred therapy in appropriate surroundings. We have kept individual digitised case files for more than 6,000 children's details to analyse and help with advocacy. As our skill basis was limited in the early stages, we did not advertise and this enabled our service to grow without becoming overwhelmed.

### Conclusion:

K.P. is geographically, political and culturally an interesting environment. This is a conflict zone. We have a Province that has 20 million population. We have poor transport infrastructure. We have a poor and largely illiterate community. We have no government support. However we have mostly self-referrals and local INGO referrals of more than 1,300 new children each year. Families return regularly with children for therapy and support and they trust our family centred team approach. We teach skills in problem solving to staff and families. We are sustainable and cost effective using local skills and materials.



**Deadline for abstract submission: November 30, 2015**

Please submit your abstract to: [disabilitycentre@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:disabilitycentre@lshtm.ac.uk)

**Restricted to one first author abstract per participant.**

If you have any questions, please write to:

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