



## International Conference: Evidence in Global Disability and Health

| <b>Applicant Details</b>                              |  |
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| <b>Name:</b>  | Emma Jolley*<br>Pauline Thivillier<br>Dominic Haslam<br>Archana Bhambal  |
| <b>Position:</b>                                      | *Technical Advisor: Health & Disability Research   |
| <b>Institution:</b>                                   | Sightsavers  |
| <b>Level of study (if applicable) (e.g. MA, PhD):</b> | N/A  |
| <b>E-mail:</b>  | ejolley@sightsavers.org  |
| <b>Phone number:</b>                                  | 01444 446686   |
| <b>Preferred presentation format:</b>                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral<br><input type="checkbox"/> Poster<br><input type="checkbox"/> Oral or poster |

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## ABSTRACT

**Title:**                    **Disaggregating routine monitoring data by disability:  
an example from eye health**

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

Sightsavers aim to reduce avoidable blindness and help people with disabilities participate more fully in society. Recently we have piloted an approach to measuring how people with disabilities access eye health programmes. We worked with partners in Bhopal, India to identify how to adapt routine monitoring systems to include disability as a disaggregate to better understand how our programme is accessed.

Using the Washington Group Short Set of Questions (WGSS) and national census questions for comparison, we adapted the existing data collection tools at a tertiary eye hospital and within four primary vision centres located within urban slums. We provided sensitisation on disability and training on the tools. We collected data for one year and carried out regular quality audits. We supplemented the data with in-depth interviews, focus group discussions and reflective diaries to understand how the pilot worked and capture unintended effects of altering the system.

We collected data from over 18,000 adult patients in one year. Reported disability varied between age, sex and the location where the data was collected. Older people were more likely to report disability using both the WGSS and the national census questions. Women were more likely to report being disabled using the WGSS and less likely using the national census question. People were much more likely to report disability at the vision centres than the hospital using both sets of questions.

The services we monitored are not equitably accessed by either women or people with disabilities. Both groups of people are less likely to attend tertiary, specialist care and as such may not be receiving the health services they require. It is possible to adapt data collection systems to capture beyond age and sex and monitor access. Each of these findings is critical to the ambition of the Agenda2030 to Leave Noone Behind.

**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:

[disabilitycentre@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:disabilitycentre@lshtm.ac.uk)