



## International Conference: Evidence in Global Disability and Health

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## ABSTRACT

**Title:** Measuring Disability: the WHO Model Disability Survey in the light of the national implementations in Chile and Sri Lanka

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

**Background:** Article 31 of the United Nation Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) mandates that State Parties collect appropriate information to enable them to formulate and implement policies to give effect to the CRPD. However, a standardized survey instrument that would make it possible to collect comprehensive, comparable and relevant information that helps countries construct a complete picture of disability and meet the obligation of monitoring the implementation of the CRPD was lacking. Having this in mind, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank (WB) initiated the development of a Model Disability Survey (MDS) in 2011. The MDS is a general population survey and represents the first positive attempt to fully operationalise the ICF and in particular the concept of the 'lived experience' of functioning and disability.

**Objectives:** To introduce the MDS by presenting results of the two national implementations carried out in 2015 in Chile and Sri Lanka.

**Methods:** Using the Polytomous Rasch Model, metric scales of capacity and performance were built, and used to estimate the prevalence of mild, moderate and severe disability. Additionally, descriptive statistics are used to report on work, health, environmental barriers, needs, well-being and community participation of persons experiencing mild, moderate and severe levels of disability.

**Results:** Results from over 15000 interviewed adults will be reported.

**Conclusion:** The MDS is a milestone towards fulfilling the third objective of the recently endorsed WHO global disability action plan 2014-2021: "to strengthen collection of relevant and internationally comparable data on disability and support research on disability and related services", and provides countries with the necessary data to fully monitor the implementation of the CRPD.

**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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