

Wheelchair design, prescription and fitting

According to the World Health Organization, an appropriate wheelchair should be delivered following 8 steps: Referral, assessment, prescription, funding and ordering, product preparation, fitting, user training, and maintenance, repairs and follow-up.

This four-hour workshop will allow participants to recognize the importance of these steps and to practice hands-on activities on physical assessment, wheelchair fitting, and user's skills training. Case studies will be used to illustrate the relationship between the different steps and open discussion will allow sharing experiences to emphasize the importance of following the wheelchair provision steps. Additionally, participants will receive a list of open access resources with training material in wheelchair provision.

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Facilitators: Sara Munera Orozco (Colombia), Jonathan Pearlman (USA)

Time	Activity
15 minutes	Background (need of wheelchairs around the world, appropriate wheelchair definition, WHO service provision guidelines)
30 minutes	Presentation about the WHO 8 steps based on a case study
30 minutes	Parallel between interview and prescription
45 minutes	Hands-on activity: Physical assessment
15 minutes	<i>Break</i>
30 minutes	Hands-on activity: Fitting
30 minutes	Hands-on activity: Wheelchair skills training
20 minutes	Maintenance examples for power and manual wheelchairs
15 minutes	Discussion on the importance of follow-up
10 minutes	Open access resources available and questions