Moroccan GPs have no specific training on using AT. Hence, patients aren’t well served and end up either abandoning their Assistive products or harmed by them. This Cross-sectional study aims to assess the education needs on disability and AT in Morocco. 457 GPs were asked to fill in a questionnaire revealing a great need for specific training about disability and AT.

Assessment of the educational needs of GPs on disability and AT

In order to suggest and develop a training curriculum on disability, rehabilitation and AT for GPs, a cross-sectional study was carried out in the public and private sectors. We used a 26 items questionnaire to assess the GPs’ knowledge, attitudes and practice concerning disability and AT. Most of the participating GPs admitted having had no training on disability or AT (91%), agreed they played a major role in dealing with PwD (86%), found this task rather difficult (66%), identified the lack of education and training as a barrier in implementing their job (73%), admitted having great difficulty prescribing AT for patients with disabilities, and clearly expressed their need to get specific training on disability and AT (95%)

Implications for Products, Provision, Personnel or Policy?

Products: AT users can have access, through good prescription, to adapted products that meet their needs and economic conditions.

Personnel: AT prescribers will have a strengthened knowledge about assistive products, their particularities, their specific rehab needs and follow-up

Policy: Building a training curriculum for AT prescribers is part of the National action plan directed by the ministry of solidarity and supported by all of the Moroccan government components.

What is the impact for AT users and other stakeholders?

AT users: will have
- Trained AT prescribers
- Better assessment of AT needs
- Appropriate assistive products
- Better follow-up

Other stakeholders:
- Community/Government
  - Better management of public money dedicated to purchasing AT for PwD
  - Improving productivity and integration of PwD
- AT fabricants:
  - Development of the AT market
  - Development of services offered to AT users

Implications for other aspects of the Global Research Agenda

Developing a specific training curriculum for GPs about disability and AT would help to:
- Master physicians’ capacities into improving their medical offer for PwDs
- Build a larger data base to collect information about AT, as GPs would be able to join the community of AT prescribers
- Build capacity in AT users, and prescribers

Strategies to share and build global capacity based on this work

Morocco welcomes every help and interaction from interested colleagues, all over the world.

We are able to share:
- Preliminary report
- University diploma program on AT.
- Continuing professional development program about AT.
- Training curriculum program on AT

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