Oral Communication

OC-766

Material and Human Resources for the Practice of Outdoor Sports by People With Disabilities: A National Cross-Sectional Study

Topic: Disability Studies

Vincent Carpentier[1], Gaël Villoing[2], Eric Hermand[3], Marjolaine Astier[4], Emmanuel Buchoud[4], Eric Perera[5]

[1]*Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Neuro-Orthopedics Unit (UPOH), Parasports Unit, ISPC-Synergies, AP-HP. Paris Saclay University, Raymond Poincaré Hospital, Garches, France*
[2]*ACTES Laboratory, University of the French Antilles, Pointe-à-Pitre, France*
[3]*UMR INSERM U1272 Hypoxia & Lung, Sorbonne Paris North University, Bobigny, France*
[4]*Fédération Française Handisport (French Parasport Federation), Paris, France*
[5]*SantESiH Laboratory, University of Montpellier, Montpellier, France*

BACKGROUND

Outdoor sports (OS) are the most popular activities for people with disabilities (PWD). However, as the natural environment can only be slightly adapted, only material and human resources can significantly increase their accessibility. The aim is to determine the need for these aids.

METHODS

We carried out a cross-sectional study of people licensed in 2023 with the Fédération Française Handisport (FFH) and practicing OS.

RESULTS

One hundred and fifty-two PWD participated in the study between September and December 2023, including 103 (68%) men. Age was 53 (16) years. Fifty people (33%) were non-walkers. Ninety-four people (61%) considered their practice difficult, and 52/152 (34%) at risk; with no difference between disability types and practice environments (land, water, air). Seventy-four people (48%) needed material assistance, and 48/74 (64%) had received dedicated training. Human assistance was needed by 89/152 (59%) of people and was continuous for 46/89 (52%) of them. Help was provided by non-professional volunteers in 65/89 (73%) of cases. Thirty-five percent of caregivers had dedicated training, and 44% of practitioners considered that their caregivers should undergo dedicated training.

CONCLUSION

Support from multi-disciplinary sports and health teams and training in material and human assistance would appear to be necessary to develop the practice of outdoor sports for PWD.

Statement of Disclosures

None

Corresponding Author:
Vincent Carpentier
Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Neuro-Orthopedics Unit (UPOH), Parasports Unit, ISPC-Synergies, AP-HP. Paris Saclay University, Raymond Poincaré Hospital, Garches, France
Email: vincent.t.carpentier@gmail.com

Doi: 10.5606/archisprm.2026.OC-766