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Rehabilitation As A Public Health Crisis--and Public Health Opportunity--For The 21st Century

Topic: Rehabilitation Across the Continuum of Care

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BACKGROUND

The number of persons with diseases amenable to rehabilitation is skyrocketing, and lack of rehabilitation has profound second and third order effects on a society. Our work examines the effects of military rehabilitation training programs and the positive effects on civilian populations. Horrific conflict across the globe has sadly changed the lives of millions of soldiers and civilians alike, but with hard-won lessons regarding the remarkable capability of human beings faced with daunting odds. These lessons have been captured and then taught to rehabilitation professionals in low/low and middle income countries with good results. In doing so, these hard-won lessons also have had a positive impact on improved employment and quality of life on both soldiers and civilians.

CONCLUSION

Rehabilitation training has a positive impact on the well-being of both the patient and the society in which they live, and motivated rehabilitation professionals can readily adapt this training to their own rehabilitation institutions.

Statement of Disclosures

None

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