

EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the first issue of "Iranian Rehabilitation Journal" (IRJ) which is dealing with disability and rehabilitation and is going to be published bi - annually. This is a fact that in the last two decades, there has been a tremendous growth in rehabilitation programmes and major changes have happened in service provision in medical, social, educational and vocational areas in Iran .

Along with service development in center-based approach with highly qualified experts and therapists, community- based rehabilitation has gained proper acceptance as a new method of service delivery and it is considered as a national plan .

More than 7 faculties in all over the country provide training courses for different disciplines .

Self- help organizations of persons with disabilities and related families and parent associations have increased rapidly in this period and they are actively involved in designing and implementing disability related affairs. There are many legislations related to employment, social service, access to barrier- free environment and other areas of disability issues . Unfortunately in spite of major achievements in many areas of disability issues, there is few published materials in a language other than Persian about this ever growing activities. Being aware of deficiency in information broadcasting on these issues, for bridging the gap, the University of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Sciences has taken an initiative within the framework of its aims and objectives to publish the "Iranian Rehabilitation Journal" which aims at providing a forum for discussion and dissemination of information of disability issues

mostly concerning Iran among practitioners , academic and advocates. So original research , reports, review articles, policy analysis, program description, case studies, ...are welcome for publication .

The first article is written by professor Roy McConkey, as a guest editorial. Readers will find in this issue, articles on variety of subjects such as CBR planning and performance in IRAN, Speech & Language Rehabilitation in IRAN, Early intervention and family Role , speech reconstructive surgery , ...etc .

On behalf of IRJ editorial advisory board members, I express my thanks and gratitude to the writers of articles published in this issue .

Your comments and suggestions are certainly appreciated and of course will help us improving the quality of the journal. Thank you .

Majid Mirkhani
Editor- in Chief