

NATIONAL  
ACADEMIES

Sciences  
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Medicine

# Aging, Functioning, and Rehabilitation: A Workshop

16-17 February 2024

University of Lucerne

Lucerne, Switzerland

*Walter Frontera, Planning Committee Chair*

FEBRUARY 2024





# Workshop Sponsors

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# Planning Committee Members

- **Walter Frontera (Chair)**, University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine
- **Somnath Chatterji**, World Health Organization, Emeritus
- **Julia Patrick Engkasan**, Universiti Malaya
- **NiCole R. Keith**, Indiana University, Bloomington
- **Matilde Leonardi**, Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta
- **Gerold Stucki**, University of Lucerne

National Academies Staff: Ruth Cooper, Adrienne Formentos, Joe Goodman, Tracy Lustig, Karen Helsing, Sharyl Nass

# Workshop Overview

This workshop will facilitate a discussion focused on the World Health Organization's concept of functioning and its role in rethinking the concept of health, with a focus on healthy aging and the future of rehabilitation as a health strategy. The workshop will include presentations on challenges in operationalizing function as a measure in health policy, rethinking disability as a universal human experience, and formulating a feasible public health agenda that addresses the increasing relevance of rehabilitation for the 21st century.

Topics for invited presentations and discussions include:

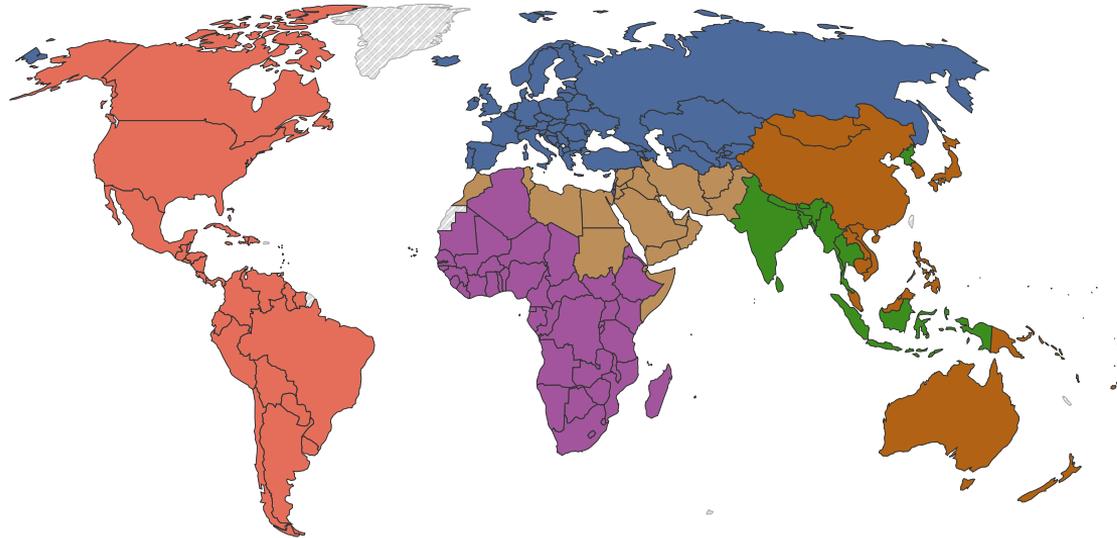
- The World Health Organization's concept of functioning in the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF);
- Moving beyond traditional health outcome measures: Operationalizing functioning as a measure of health;
- Standardizing and routinely collecting functioning data in health information systems;

# Workshop Overview (cont'd)

- Ways to integrate functioning into public health strategies for healthy aging and healthy longevity;
- Disability from the perspective of functioning: a universal human experience as well as a discrete social group seeking equity;
- Epidemiology of functioning: the consequences of using functioning as the third health indicator augmenting mortality and morbidity;
- How demographic and epidemiological projections are shaping the future of public health in the context of functioning;
- Conceptualizing and operationalizing rehabilitation as the health strategy that aims to optimize functioning, which could serve as the basis for scaling rehabilitation in the 21st century;
- Functioning and person-centered care: the lived experience of health;
- Functioning and value-based health care.

# WHO regions

WHO Member States are grouped into six regions. The list of countries by regions is published here <http://www.who.int/about/regions/en>.



■ Africa ■ Americas ■ Eastern Mediterranean ■ Europe ■ South-East Asia ■ Western Pacific ■ No data

Data source: World Health Organization

[OurWorldInData.org/world-region-map-definitions](https://ourworldindata.org/world-region-map-definitions) | CC BY

# Agenda – 16 February

- Welcome and Workshop Overview
- Welcomes by the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; the University of Lucerne; and the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences
- Keynotes: The Functioning Revolution; Healthy Longevity; and The World Health Organization's Perspective on Rehabilitation
- Panel 1: Functioning and the Realization of Healthy Longevity Through Rehabilitation
- Panel 2: Functioning and the Investment Case for the Role of Rehabilitation in Healthy Longevity
- Panel 3: The Foundation for Improving Rehabilitation Service Delivery and Care Across the Life Course: Continuity and Person-Centered Care and the Lived Experience of Health
- Panel 4: Functioning as the Key to a Comprehensive 360-Degree Life-Course Foundation for Healthy Longevity Research
- Panel 5: Advocating for Health and Social Policy in Support of Healthy Longevity: Functioning as the Third Indicator Of Health

# Agenda – 17 February

- Facilitated Breakout Sessions
- Report Backs from Facilitated Discussion and Workshop Reflections
- Next Steps Forward
- Closing Remarks

