

Protecting and Empowering Persons with Disabilities during the COVID Pandemic: *Responses Must be Disability Inclusive*

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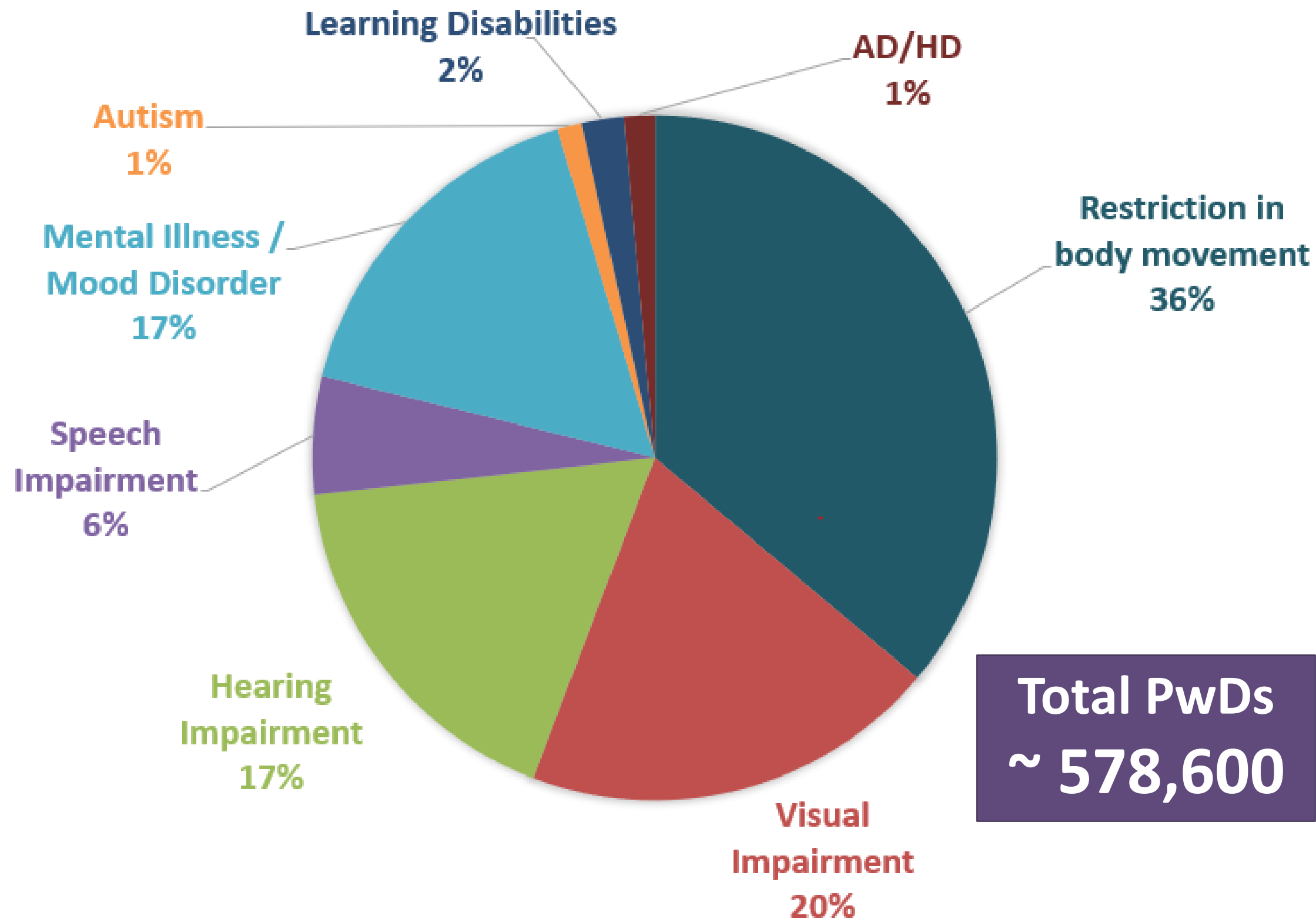
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1.1 Introduction



Selected Type of Disability

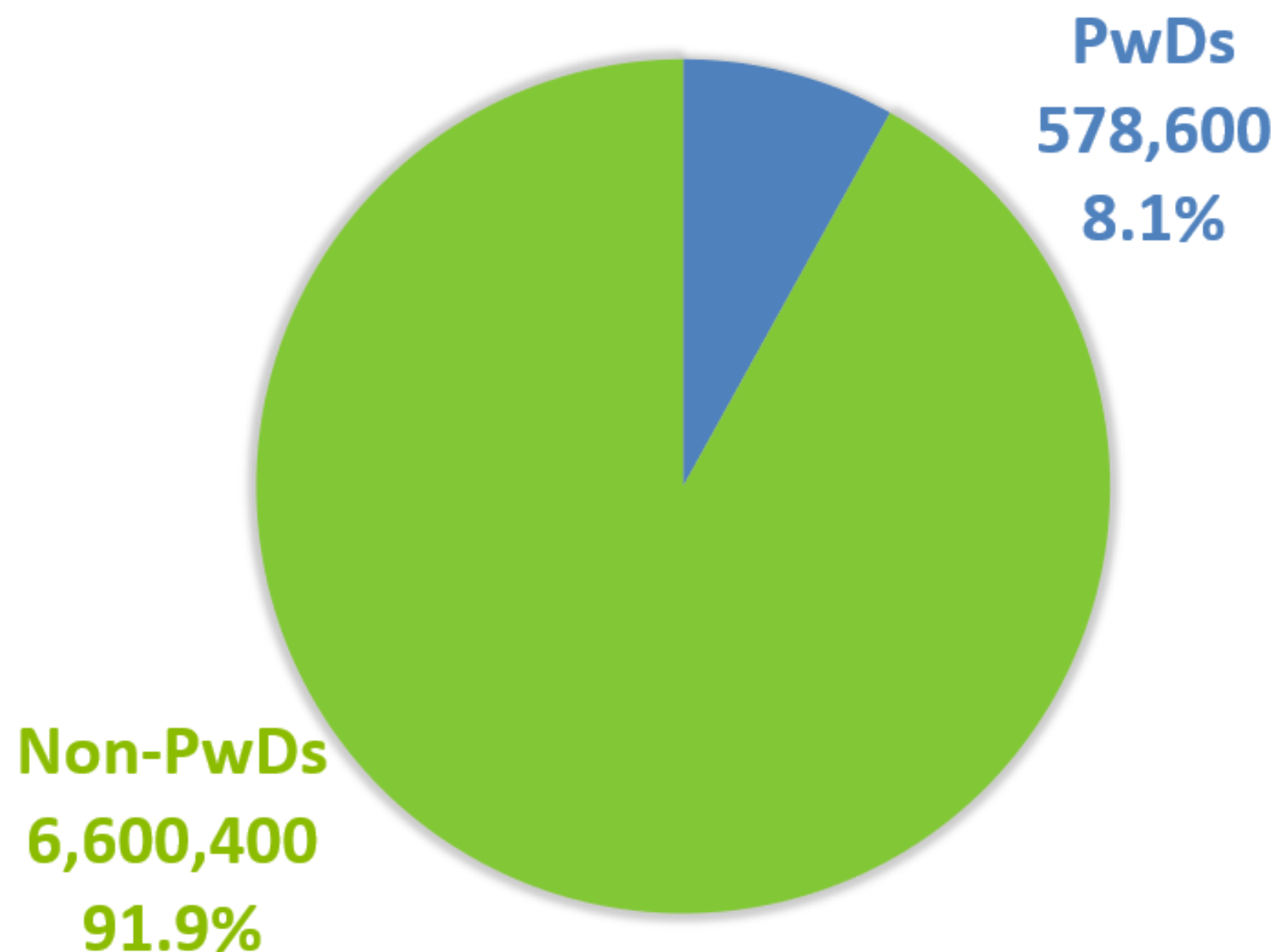
(by Census and Statistics Department, Report No. 62 in 2013)

Type of Disability	No. of Disabilities
Restriction in body movement	320,500
Visual impairment	174,800
Hearing impairment	155,200
Speech impairment	49,300
Mental illness/mood disorder	147,300
Autism	10,200
Learning disabilities	17,700
AD/HD	12,800
Total	887,800

(Single and Multiple Disabilities included)

1.2 Introduction

Proportion of Population (2013)



Profile of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)

(by Census and Statistics Department, Report No. 62 in 2013)
Proportion of population

2013	2020
Total Population 7.179 million	Total Population : 7.509 million 5% increase

1.3 Focus Group

Focus Group Meeting on COVID-19
on 24 April 2020

- 20+ representatives from different disabilities groups
- Report sent to Government and associated NGOs at end May 2020



1.4 Disabilities of Participants in Focus Group

- Physical Disability
- Visual Disability
- Hearing Disability
- Rehabilitation Advisory Committee Representatives
- NGOs
- DPOs



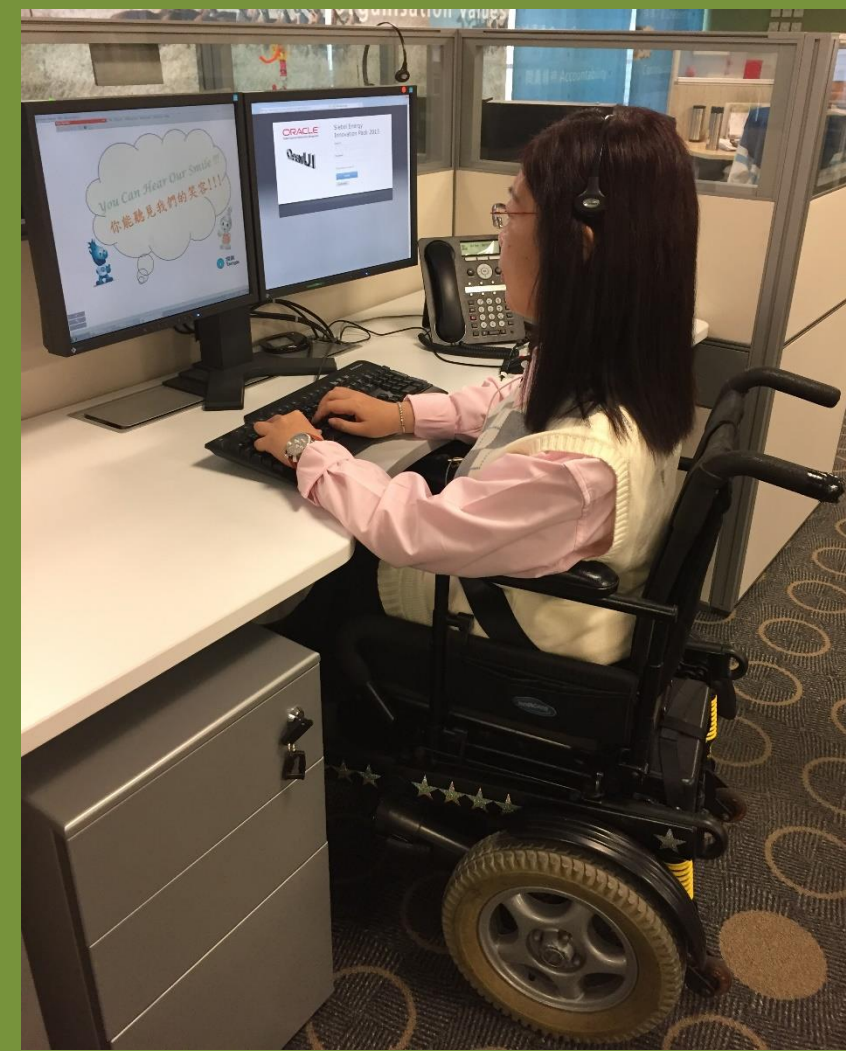
COVID strategy
must be



**Disability
Inclusive**



2. Essential Needs



2.1 Services

2.2 Daily Life

2.3 Quarantine Centers

2.4 Health Conditions

2.5 Environment Conditions

2.6 Information and Knowledge

2.7 Education and Training

2.8 Psychological and Social

2.9 Preconceptions

2.10 Caregivers

2.1 Personal Essential Needs



- Home care, meal, and hygiene services may not be available
- Need review

2.2 Daily Life Essentials

- PwDs have difficulty queuing up for long time
- Need priority for their essentials



2.2 Daily Life Essentials

- PWDs have difficulty queuing up for long time
- Need priority for their essentials



Free
delivery
by NGOs
in Hong Kong

2.3 Quarantine Centres



- Quarantine centres are **generally not physically accessible to PwDs**
- Need **universal design**

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- Quarantine centres are generally not physically accessible to PwDs
- Need universal design



Accessible
quarantine
centre
in Hong Kong

2.4 Health Conditions

- PwDs are vulnerable for infection
- Need special priorities for preventive measures



2.5 Environmental Conditions

- People with **mobility impairment** touch many items
- People with **visual impairment** rely on braille information
- Need to adopt extra precaution for infection control.



2.6 Information and Knowledge

- PwDs may not have access to the Internet and ICT devices
- Cannot acquire latest information about available services



2.7 Education and Training Needs

- PwDs cannot switch to learning or working from home easily
- Need special training and support



2.8 Psychological and Social Needs

- Social skills of PwDs may deteriorate after months of lockdown

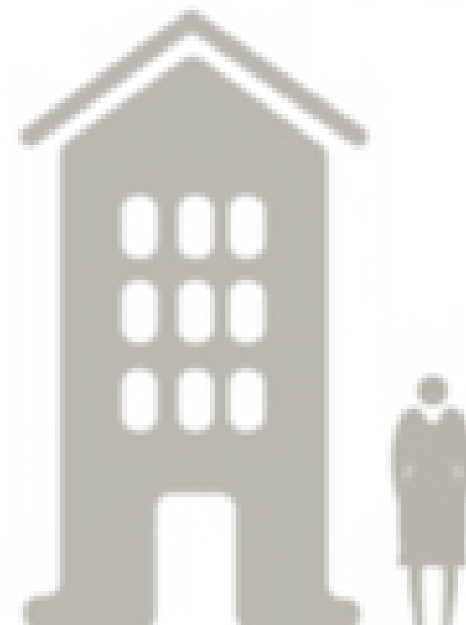
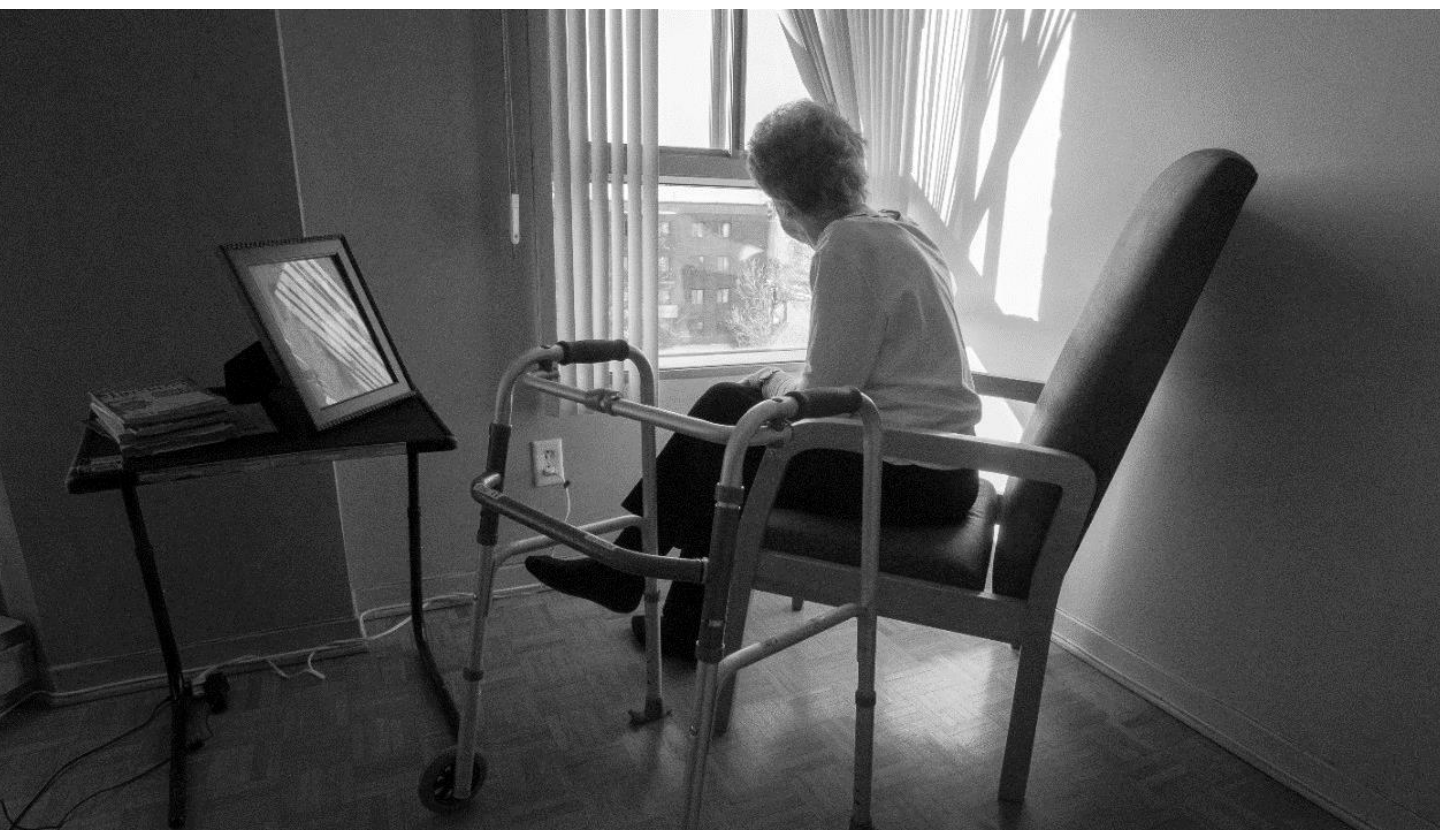


- Need reassessment and retraining.

2.9 Preconception



- Generally assumed that PwDs belong to some NGOs
- Non-members are isolated from essential service provisions and news



2.10 Caregivers Needs

- Caregivers have to compensate for the caring and rehabilitation work done by service providers
- Psychological burden and burnout



3. Conclusion



Protecting and Empowering
Persons with Disabilities
during the COVID Pandemic



3. Conclusion



COVID strategy must be
disability inclusive



3. Conclusion



Protecting and Empowering
Persons with Disabilities
during the COVID Pandemic

Inclusive
as
Users

3. Conclusion



Protecting and **Empowering**
Persons with Disabilities
during the COVID Pandemic

Inclusive
as
Decision
Makers

Thank you
Arigatō gozaimasu

