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**CBR workers perspective of their role in wheelchair service provision**

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Wheelchair service provision and use in less resourced settings face substantial challenges and is the focus of global efforts to affect change. Shortage of rehabilitation professionals and complex environmental challenges experienced by people with disabilities place challenges in implementing recommendations of the WHO Guidelines of provision of manual wheelchairs in less resourced setting. Strengthening appropriate wheelchair services benefits from collaboration with a range of stakeholders, including CBR workers. The nature and effectiveness of their role in the system however needs to be further understood.

The study objectives were to determine what CBR workers in Uganda perceive as their role in wheelchair service provision and with wheelchair users; and what they need to implement this. Focus group discussions and questionnaires were used to gather qualitative data from CBR workers in areas with access to wheelchair services. Findings indicated a range of areas in which the CBR workers felt they had a role including assisting access to services; transferring skills and knowledge regarding wheelchairs; providing follow up services for wheelchair users and facilitating participation and inclusion. Considering the diverse contextual challenges, the CBR workers' range of approaches; knowledge of networks and ability to work in the community make their input valuable. Wheelchair specific training, financial resources and effective collaboration with the wheelchair services providers, commonly occupational or physical therapists, were perceived to be facilitators to effective implementation of their role. It was evident however that this was either absent or not consistently available substantially affecting the effectiveness of their perceived role.