

ICF (2001)

WHO International Classification of Functioning, Disability & Health

ICIDH (1980) 'Impairment' ; 'Disability' ; 'Handicap' .

WHO ICF - Adopted 22nd May, 2001

In WHO Member States, population health has traditionally been measured by mortality. ICF signals the importance of 'non-fatal health outcomes' (e.g. functioning and disability in different situations of life and living) as the primary indicator of a living population's health status.

'Disability' is now a generic term, which is only used when reference to the three dimensions of the WHO International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF-2001) - Body Functions & Structures , Activity and Participation - is intended.

There is a widely held misunderstanding that ICIDH - 2 is only about people with disabilities ; in fact, it is about all people . [Section 3.1 on Page 5 - Final Draft, Full Version, April 2001.]

'Activity Limitation' replaces the term **'Disability'** used in the 1980 version of ICIDH. [Footnote 1 on Page 159 - Final Draft, Full Version, April 2001.]

At a technical level, the term 'people with disabilities' is now obsolete. Reference should in future be made to 'people with activity limitations'.