

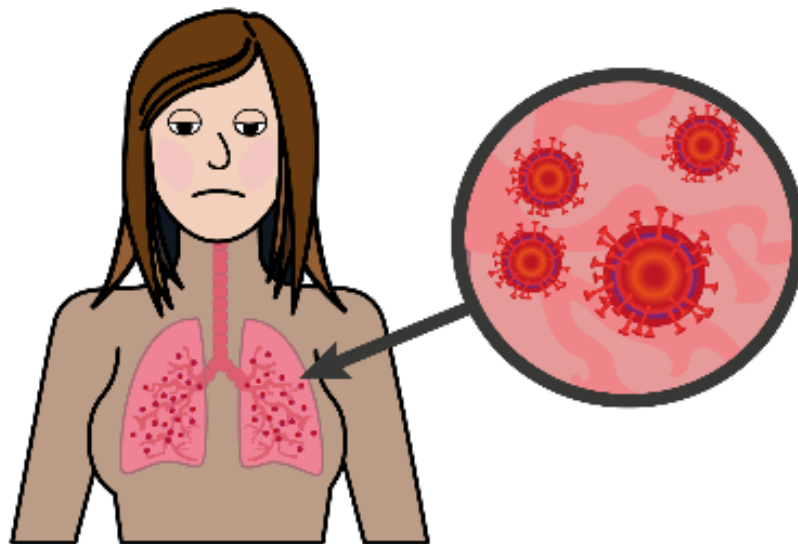


Inclusive Futures

Promoting disability inclusion



Information on the impact of COVID 19 on people with disabilities



Easy read booklet Issue 5



Who we are



We are Social Development Direct.



We give advice to people working on **International Development** on how to include all people, such as women and people with disabilities.



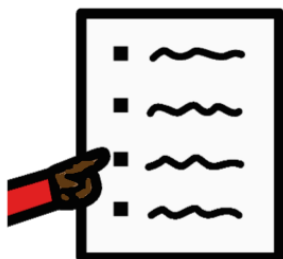
International Development supports people around the world who do not have enough access to the things they need.



We work with other groups to run the Disability Inclusion Helpdesk.

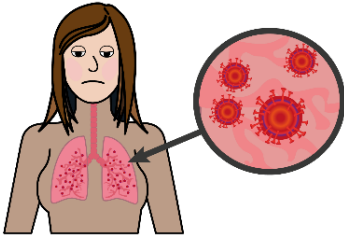


This booklet is part of the **5th Helpdesk Evidence Digest**. It explains evidence on how people with disabilities are impacted by COVID 19 virus.



Please look at the full report for links to documents or for more information

Primary Impacts



COVID-19 is a virus making lots of people around the world ill.



Someone can easily become sick from COVID-19 if they have been close to a person who is sick from the virus, or if they have touched things that have been touched by someone who is sick from the virus.

Some people with disabilities might be more likely to get **COVID 19** **because:**



- Some people do not share information about COVID-19 in ways that disabled people can find it and understand it.



- Places where you can wash your hands are not accessible



- Some people need carers to be close to them when helping



- Some people live with lots of other people in special homes

Some people with disabilities are more likely to get very ill or die from COVID 19.



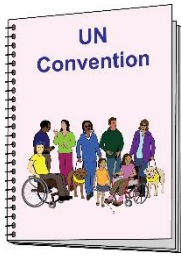
- Sometimes it is difficult for disabled people to get the care they need in hospitals.



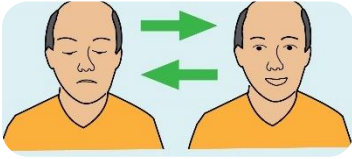
- Older people are very at risk. More older people have disabilities than young people.



- Bad advice in some places might lead to disabled people being ignored and left out.



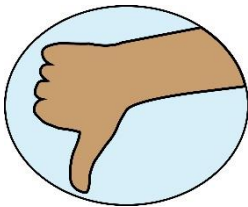
- This is against the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



COVID 19 can upset people who have mental health conditions



- Lots of people have mental health conditions



- Big illnesses in the past have led to lots of mental health conditions

Secondary Impacts



COVID-19 is making it harder for some people with disabilities to access regular health services



When lots of people lose their jobs it is bad for people with disabilities and it can be difficult to get new jobs



People with disabilities in poorer countries are more likely to not have enough food than people without disabilities



People with disabilities are less likely to be included in social protection systems



The closing of schools means that some children with disabilities are not being educated



Schools closing put children with disabilities at a higher risk of sexual abuse



Stigma and discrimination against people with disabilities may increase:



- Sometimes public messaging does not support people with disabilities



- Sometimes people with disabilities may be accused of having COVID-19 when they are healthy



Carers or community members who help disabled people may not be around to help.



Violence at home might increase, especially against women and girls.

Response and Recovery



To make sure disabled people get the help they need, along with everyone who is impacted by COVID-19, people who make important decisions should:



- Use good research to make sure all people with disabilities are supported



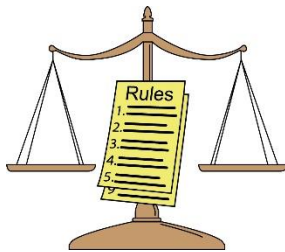
- Include people with disabilities and their organisations when making decisions



- Make sure they always think about making things accessible from the start



- Collect and use data about how disabled people are affected



- Listen and talk about how we can make society better after the crisis

