

# Definitions

## Impairment:

- In the context of health experience, Impairment is any Loss or Abnormality of physiological, psychological or anatomical Structure or Function
- It refers to an underlying molecular, cellular, psychological or structural disorders within an individual.

## Definitions

**New definition and classification:**

**The new definition emphasized that, the human functioning state is a result of the interaction between three dimensions:**

1. The **biological** status with
2. the **psychological** status and
3. the coping mechanisms of the human being and the **environment and the society** surrounding.

## **New definition and classification:**



- ✓ This medical model has recently been replaced by the **Social Model** of disability.
- ✓ Social model conceptualizes **disability as arising from the interaction of a person's functional status with the physical, cultural, and policy environments.**
- ✓ If the environment is designed for the full range of human functioning and incorporates appropriate accommodations and supports, then; People with functional limitations would not be "disabled" in the sense that they would be able to fully participate in society.

## Prevention of disability:

**D) Immunization programs:** Programs of general immunization during infancy have led to a remarkable decrease in infectious diseases that used to be a major cause of disability

- These include Poliomyelitis, Tuberculosis, Meningitis, Encephalitis and Measles.

## Prevention of disability:

### E) Regulations & legislation

Certain health regulations and legislation such as:

- ✓ Mandating immunization of infants
- ✓ Legislation concerning safety of toys, seatbelts, fireworks...etc. also play an important role in primary health prevention

## Tertiary Prevention (Rehabilitation)

- Rehabilitation is the process aiming at enabling an impaired person to reach an optimal (mental, physical and / or social) functional level, thus providing him with the tools to change his own life
- It includes all the services provided to enable the handicapped to make maximum use of their abilities

