

Making Assistive Technology and Rehabilitation Engineering a Sure Bet

## **A Survey Study on the required demands of rehabilitative & assistive technology in everyday life in South Korea**

Jayeon Yun, Jaebum An, Myungjoon Lim, Jongbae Kim  
National Rehabilitation Center Research Institute (NRCRI) – 111  
Gaorigil, Gangbuk-gu, Seoul, Korea, 142-884

### **ABSTRACT**

In recent years, increased accessibility to social welfare services, barrier-free movement, and Rehabilitative & Assistive Technology (RAT) has expanded the scope of activities of daily living (ADL) that are possible for individuals with disabilities. To this end, the enhancement of educational and work environments with RAT devices has likewise been shown to improve the quality of life of these individuals. In an effort to predict which RAT devices best predict improved QoL (Quality of Life), we developed a questionnaire based upon activity and participation list of the World Health Organization) ICF (International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health) to illuminate customers' needs for specific RAT in everyday life in South Korea. 563 individuals with physical disabilities responded to the survey. Data were categorized and analyzed statistically, and they will be prioritized and referred for the development of the further research tasks for NRCRI as well as other research institutes.

### **KEYWORDS**

Customer's needs, ICF, rehabilitative & assistive technology, NRCRI, Customer Participatory Model

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

This study was funded by the National Rehabilitation Center Research Institute grant #08-A-03

### **Author Contact Information:**

Jongbae Kim, Ph.D., National Rehabilitation Center Research Institute (NRCRI), – 111 Gaorigil, Gangbuk-gu, Seoul, Korea, 142-884, Office Phone (82-2) 901-1901 EMAIL : jbkim@nrc.go.kr