



Covid-19 pandemic and people with disabilities Recommendations prepared by NGO Inclusiva

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Key points:

- People with disabilities in Chile today represent 15% of the world population. Therefore, there are more than 1 billion people with disabilities all over the world.
- The Convention on Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities. State to assume commitments and work so that these rights are exercised by all persons with disabilities.

Among the most important articles found in the Convention, we can highlight:

- **Art. 10** : States Parties reaffirm the inherent right to life of all human beings and they will adopt all the necessary measures to guarantee the effective enjoyment of that right by the disabled people on equal terms with others.
- **Art. 5**: The States Parties will prohibit all discrimination based on disability and guarantee to all persons with disabilities equal and effective legal protection against discrimination for any reason.
- **Art. 25**: The States Parties recognize that persons with disabilities have the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of health without discrimination on the basis of disability.
- **Art. 11**: The States Parties protects people with disabilities during disasters and emergencies

Specific recommendations:

- 1.- The communications about COVID-19 are accessible. Sign language interpreters must be available validated by the deaf community. There must be versions of the documents in accessible formats
- 2.- Hospitals and health services must have sign language interpreters or have staff who knows sign language to provide health care.
- 3.- Support networks for people with disabilities with dependency must be created, many of them have greater vulnerability to respiratory diseases, given that if their caregivers catch COVID-19 (remember that in many regions of the world most caregivers are unpaid family for such work and mostly women) said people face a double danger, given that: 1) face transmission of COVID-19 with possible death associated with respiratory deficiencies and 2) possible death due to lack of food and care due to poor or non-existent support network.
- 4.- Designate specific personnel for the population of people with disabilities and prioritize them in processes such as preventive vaccination (influenza), delivery of food or others. For this, it is recommended working with local governments, rehabilitation networks health authorities and humanitarian help networks