

Press release

6th July 2016

For immediate release

Nepalese physical therapist to address WCPT Congress 2017

A physical therapist from Nepal will be among the main speakers at the profession's largest and most important international gathering, the WCPT Congress 2017, to be held next year in Cape Town on 2nd – 4th July.

The Nepalese physical therapist taking part is profiled in the attached sheet.

Sunil Pokhrel will be contributing to focused symposia featuring prominent international speakers from across WCPT's five regions. Focused symposia are core congress sessions providing a forum where cutting edge research and practice perspectives can be explored and debated on issues of global relevance to the profession.

"We've been able to select some very high quality speakers, covering topics of vital importance for the profession across a wide variety of practice and research areas," said Dina Brooks, Chair of WCPT's International Scientific Committee, which has responsibility for putting together the programme for the WCPT Congress.

"We're also delighted that we have such a good geographical representation in our speakers. So we can honestly say that the focused symposia will have something for everyone – wherever they work, and whether their interest is clinical practice, research or education."

"Focused symposia are a very popular feature of our congresses, drawing large audiences. They provide the opportunity not just to hear from world authorities, but to engage with them in discussion."

Each focused symposium is organised by a convenor, who leads an international group of speakers through linked research-focused presentations. The symposium ends with key take-home messages for practice, research, education, management and policy.

About the WCPT Congress

The WCPT Congress is held every two years by the World Confederation for Physical Therapy. The last congress, held in Singapore in 2015, attracted 3,500 physical therapists from 114 countries.

Further details about the symposia and the programme for WCPT Congress 2017 can be found at: <http://www.wcpt.org/wcpt2017/fs>

WCPT Congress 2017 is organised by WCPT Trading Limited

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The World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT) represents the physical therapy profession worldwide. WCPT is registered in the UK as a charity.

Please contact Mia Lockner if you have any specific queries: mlockner@wcpt.org.

Note to WCPT member organisations

Please use this information in your magazine, journal, newsletter or social media channels to help attract delegates to WCPT Congress 2017 and celebrate the inclusion of speakers from your country or region. It may also be forwarded to your local or national media.

Speaker from Nepal

Speaker: Sunil Pokhrel

Symposium: PHYSIOTHERAPY IN DISASTER RESPONSE AND RECOVERY: STARTING WITH PREPARATION

Their role: Speaker

Biography:

Mr. Sunil Pokhrel (<https://np.linkedin.com/pub/sunil-pokhrel/62/772/90>) is the senior Injury Rehabilitation Officer of Handicap International Nepal with responsibility for injury management, early detection, health promotion, rehabilitation and assistive device services. With a bachelors degree in physical therapy, he is also an executive member of the Nepal Physiotherapy Association (NEPTA). He supports NEPTA in handling communications, concept note reports and proposal development. He has 5 years of experience at micro, meso and macro levels that include a grassroots organisations, government facilities under the ministry of health and presently the International NGO Handicap International.

Representing Handicap International, he was involved in setting up and supervising the emergency rehabilitation unit in one of the major government hospitals of Nepal following the devastating earthquake in April 2015. His platform presentation was accepted in WCPT conference 2015

(<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S003194061502180X>) but he decided to continue his rehabilitation support to people affected by the earthquake in Nepal. Sunil is also a contributor of an editorial "The Role of Physical Therapists in the Medical Response Team Following a Natural Disaster: Our Experience in Nepal"

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