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CHANGES IN THE THIRD EDITION

In the years since the second edition went to press, a number of developments have occurred in health care in general and rehabilitation in particular. An overarching goal in writing a third edition has been to make revisions as were needed to ensure that the text would continue to reflect current best practice. To this end, an exhaustive search of the literature was performed before each chapter was revised. Revisions were then made to reflect available evidence and current clinical practice guidelines. Revised chapters were reviewed by academic faculty and expert clinicians and additional revisions were made based on their feedback.

One of the developments in health care that is reflected in this edition is a change in the way that disability and disablement are conceptualized. In 2001, the member states of the United Nations adopted the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) to provide a standard language and framework for descriptions of