



A profile of patients attending physical rehabilitation services of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) over 40 years (1979-2018)

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# ICRC Physical Rehabilitation Programme



# Background

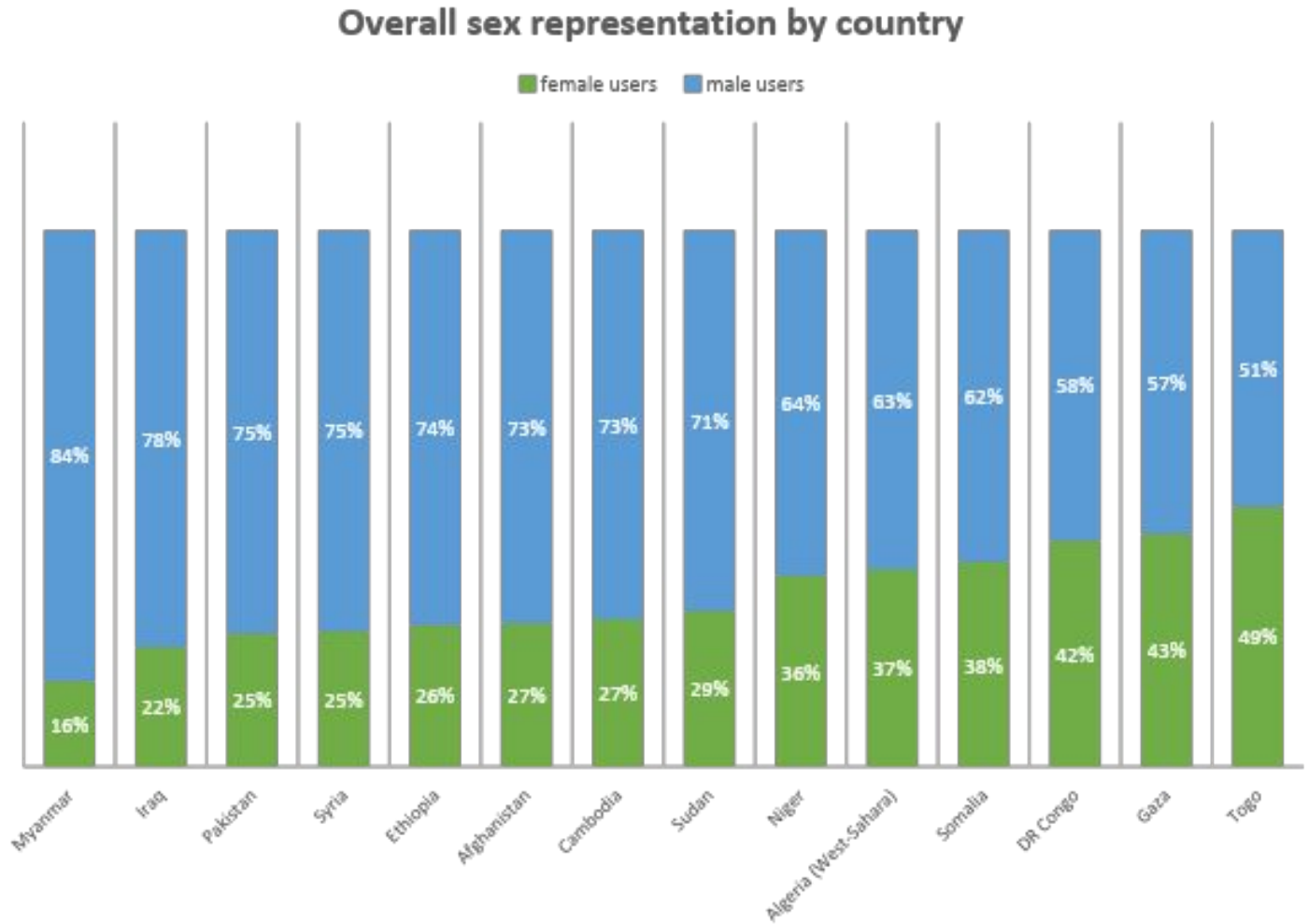
- Little research on persons undergoing rehabilitation in conflict contexts
- Vulnerable populations
- Access to and availability of rehabilitation services are scarce
- Need to examine the profiles of service users to identify priority health conditions and to recognise affected populations with specific needs to inform the development of rehabilitation systems in conflict settings
- **Aim: To profile the demographic and clinical presentations of persons attending ICRC supported physical rehabilitation centres (PRCs) over 40 years 1979-2018 worldwide.**

# Methods

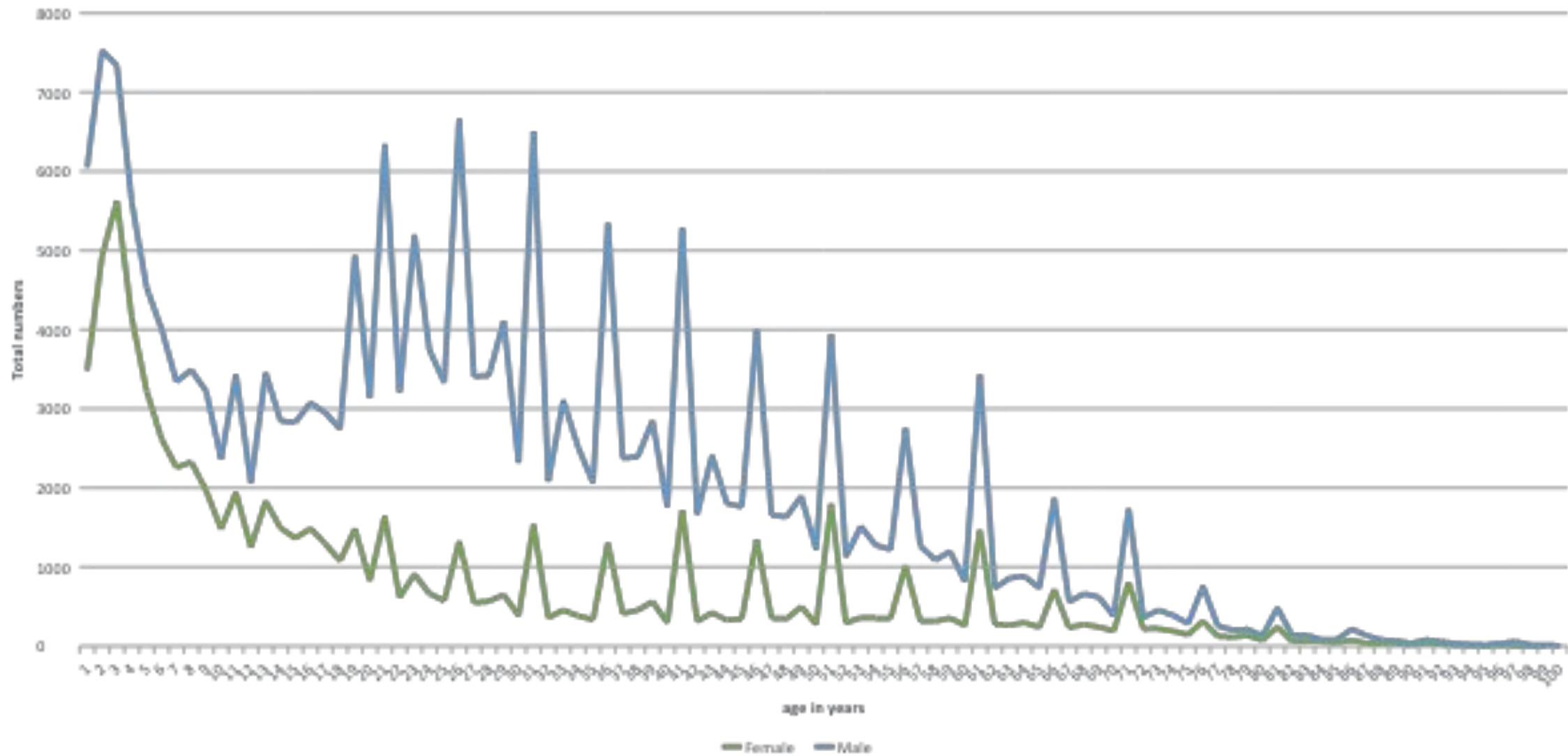
- Descriptive retrospective review
- Patient Management Systems (PMS) used in 38/144 ICRC supported Physical Rehabilitation Centres
- Data were cleaned, merged and organised into variables of interest
- Primary analyses comprised of descriptive statistics
- Ethical approval: Commission Cantonale d'Ethique de la Recherche (CCER), Geneva

# Results

- 31 Physical Rehabilitation Centres from 14 countries participated
- 287,274 service user records

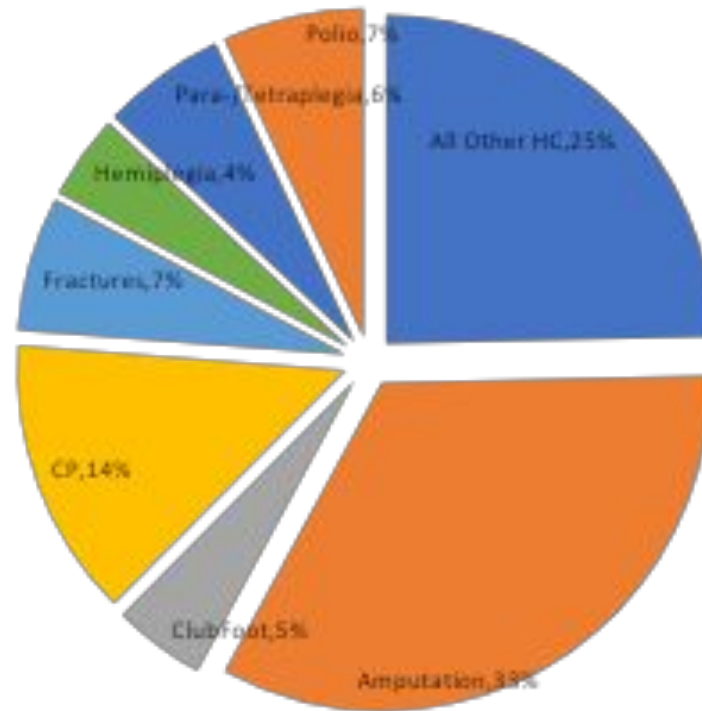


### Age at registration



# Clinical presentation/ primary diagnosis

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Country	Hemiplegia	
	Male	Female
Afghanistan	5249(  72%)	2014(  28%)
Cambodia	1532(  57%)	1134(  43%)
Gaza	112(  63%)	65(  37%)
Iraq	202(  66%)	104(  34%)
Myanmar	92(  66%)	48(  34%)
Somalia	775(  68%)	365(  32%)



Country	Cerebral palsy	
	Male	Female
Afghanistan	19740( 63%)	11709( 37%)
Cambodia	1721( 56%)	1372( 44%)
Gaza	285( 61%)	180( 39%)
Iraq	1075( 63%)	627( 37%)
Myanmar	157( 50%)	155( 50%)
Somalia	856( 59%)	588( 41%)

# Take-home messages

- Significant sex differences across most age groups and both conflict related and non conflict related injuries
  - Warrants the need to further explore issues about access and acceptability of rehabilitation for women in conflict settings
- Greatest burden of injury is among men of working age
  - Impact on livelihood, poverty and economic progress
- High numbers of children observed especially in cerebral palsy group
  - Reflects poor maternal and child health services - severe impact on women and families

# Questions?

- Acknowledgements
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- Co-authors
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