

ATP ASIA

Annual Conference 2026 | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Disability Inclusion on Credentialling Exams: Accessibility from a Global Perspective

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Who is disabled? The old Medical Model

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The model typically used in the U.S. & Canada.

- A person is ***disabled*** due to a diagnosis by a medical practitioner of a disorder or a disease: something that is "broken" or "wrong" with them.

- Many people in the disability community are insulted by this model.

Who is disabled? The Social Model

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The model typically used in western Europe & Australia.

- A person is ***disabled*** due to environmental or attitudinal barriers to access.

- ***Disability*** **means any impairment, that, in interaction with a barrier, hinders a person's full and equal participation.**

  [*Accessible Canada Act* of 2019]

Disability Model Comparison

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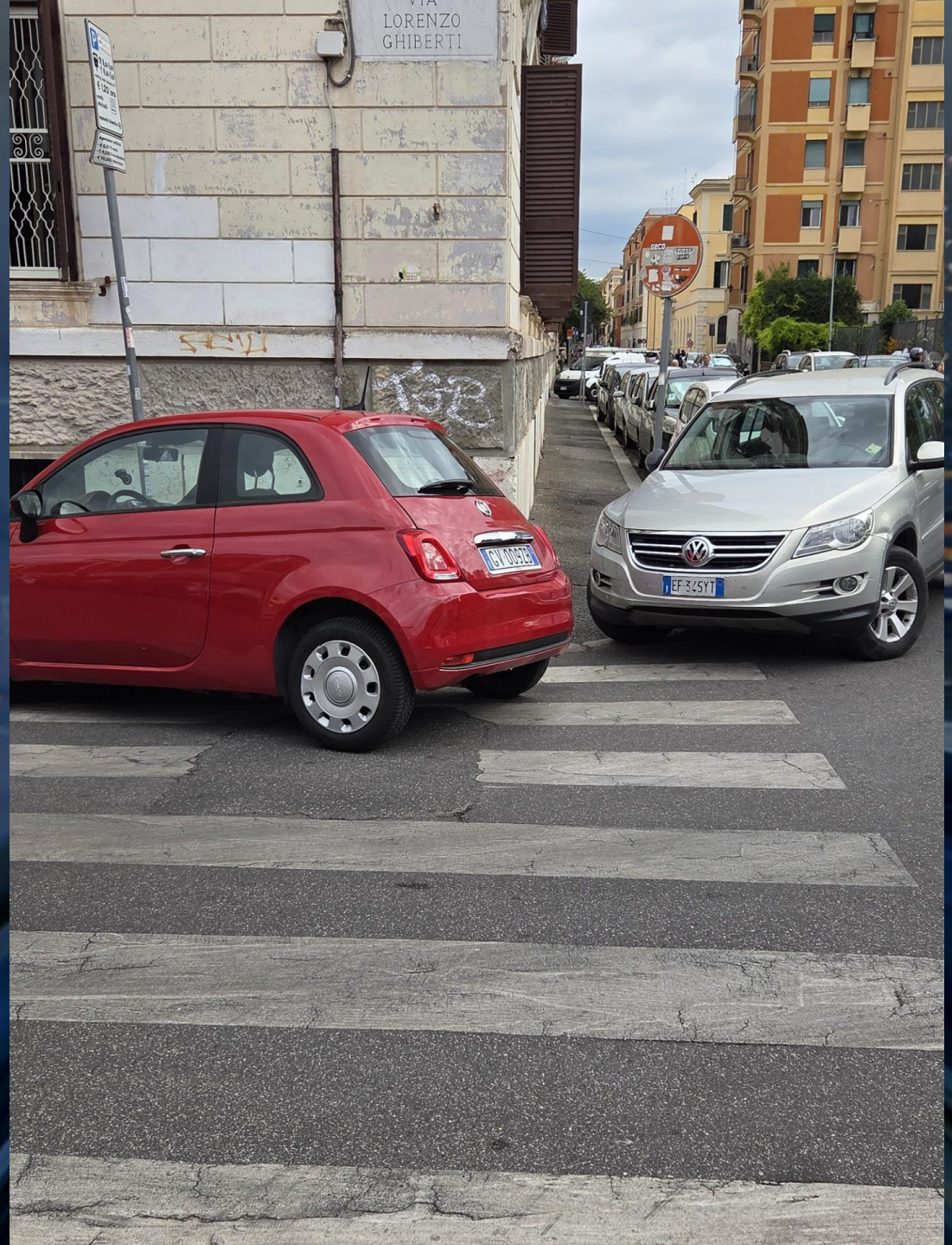
Medical model example: Sally is **disabled** due to her diagnosis of cerebral palsy. She is confined to a wheelchair due to her birth defects. Sally cannot walk properly. She depends on other people to assist her with most daily activities.

Social model example: Sally is trying to get into a hotel. She is **disabled** because the sidewalk next to hotel does not have curb cuts and there are several steps and no wheelchair ramp.

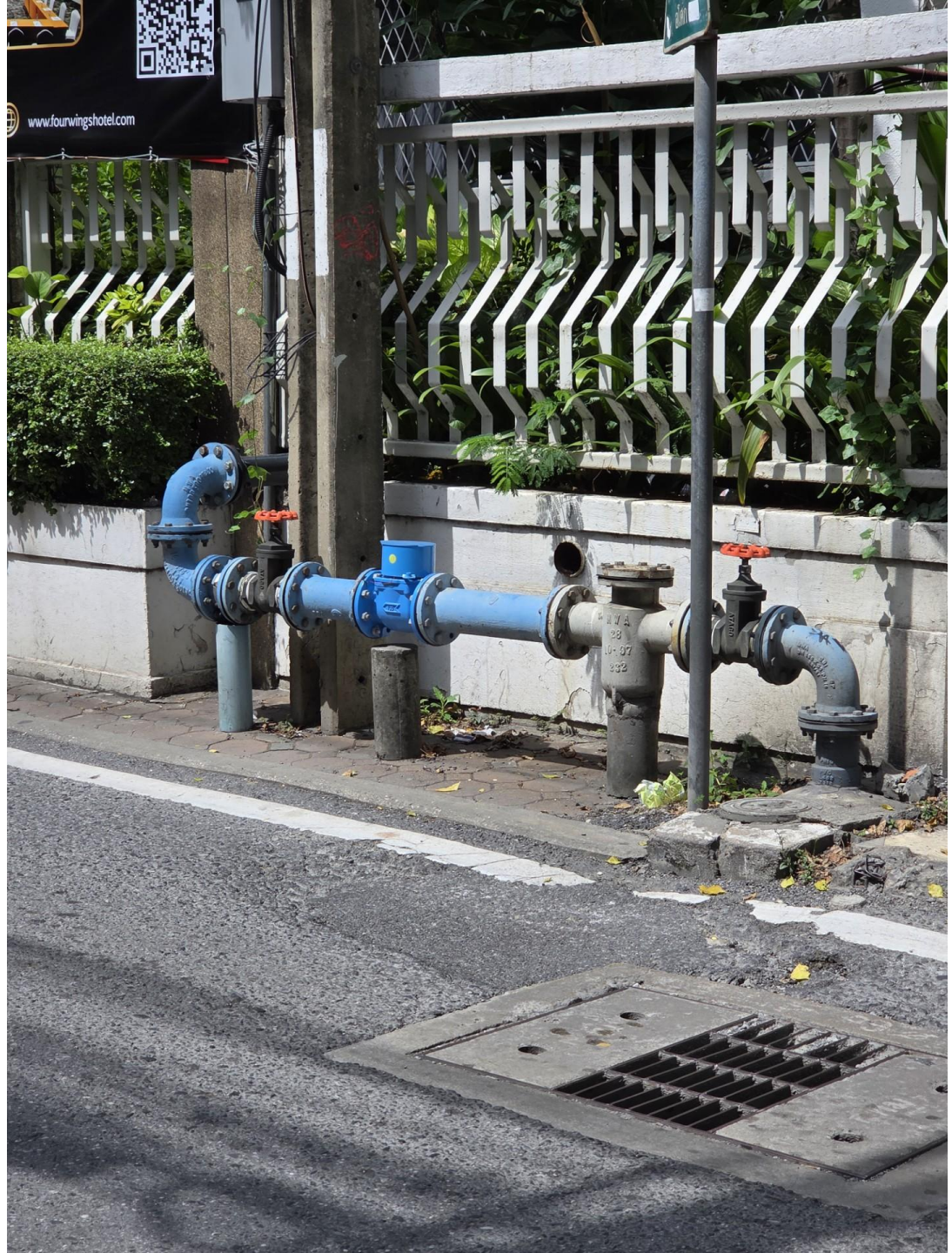
Why does Sally use a wheelchair? *It doesn't matter.*


Why would a wheelchair user be disabled?

Why would a wheelchair user be disabled?



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What is disability inclusion in the context of assessment?

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- Have policies and practices that intentionally reduce barriers to access.
  - Reduce barriers to access on the test itself
  - Reduce barriers to access during the application & registration process
  - Reduce barriers to access in the pre-assessment (learning) context
- Inclusion should lead to increased participation by candidates with disabilities.

How can the testing community be more inclusive to candidates with disabilities?

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- Ensure that the *test content* is accessible
  - Assistive technology for reading or low vision: compatibility with BOTH the test driver as well as the content
  - Alt-text for graphics
  - No dependency on mouse/cursor
  - Have an assistive technology expert and/or disabled people *test the test*
- Ensure that the *entire process* is accessible
  - Accessible pre-assessment training and learning contexts
  - Accessible registration process
  - Accessible process for requesting reasonable adjustments
  - Accessible test centres
  - Accessible website https://wave.webaim.org/

https://upcat.up.edu.ph/ University of the Philippines

https://www.ateneo.edu/college/admissions/acet/testing-centers University of Manila

Is your test accessible?

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- Is your *website* accessible?
- Could a blind person take your test?
- Could a person with no use of their dominant hand effectively take your test?
- Could a person with a need for unscheduled breaks take your test?
- Are your test centres fully handicap-accessible?



Questions?

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Thank You !