

• Special Issue •

## Editorial of Special Issue

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We are very pleased to present to you five (5) articles written by colleagues at the College of Allied Health Sciences, East Carolina University (ECU) in North Carolina, U.S.A. This is a collection of descriptive information in reference to the various disciplines involved in Allied Health Sciences collected for this issue of *Chinese Journal of Rehabilitation Theory and Practice*. The authors described the disciplines and academic programs in respective areas in allied health sciences.

According to the Association of Allied Health Schools, professionals in this field are involved with the delivery of health related services pertaining to the identification, evaluation and prevention of diseases and disorders; dietary and nutrition services; rehabilitation and health systems management, among others. Allied Health professionals, to name a few, include health information management professionals, health services management professionals, physician assistants, dental hygienists, diagnostic medical sonographers, dietitians, medical technologists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, rehabilitation counseling, radiographers, respiratory therapists, and speech language pathologists.

During the past years, Allied Health Profession-

als have become indispensable team members within the fields of medical professionals and health sciences professionals. This trend will undoubtedly become much stronger as more emphasis will be focused on the holistic approach of health with respect to providing best practice care and improving quality of life for people who are in need of health care services.

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