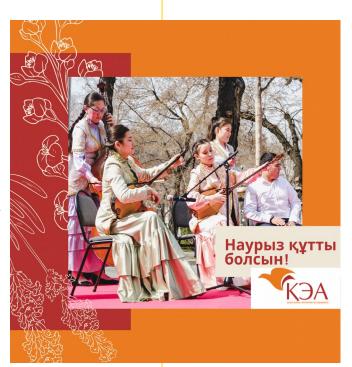


## Word from the President

Happy Nauryz to all of you in Kazakhstan! Wishing you for this New Year: goodness, health, happiness and great friendships with those around you! May dreams come true, and health be restored.

Like all of us, we look back on a challenging year, facing the direct and indirect impact of Covid-19. One of the core principles within KEA is that we advocate for accessible, acceptable, and available health (services) for all, which also includes primary health care for those suffering Covid-19, and the rehabilitation which is needed to fully recover. This is in line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which states in article 25 that 'Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and



the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control'.

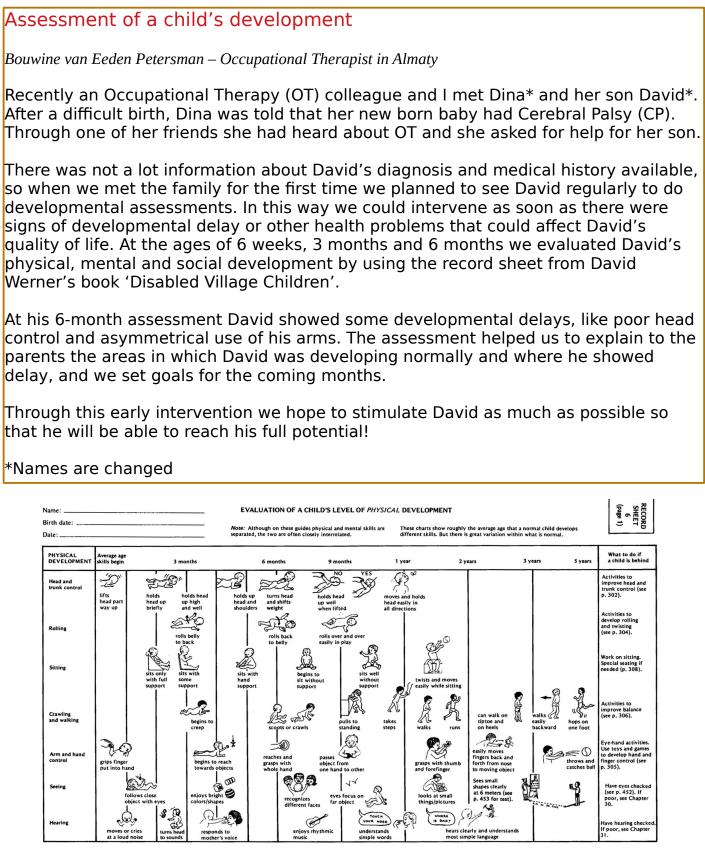
According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the focus for the 21st century should be on rehabilitation as a priority health strategy. Aging populations, and an increase in the number of people living with noncommunicable diseases like cancer, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases and their risk factors, are an increasing public health and development challenge in Kazakhstan. Occupational Therapists are trained and skilled in observing, planning, treating, and evaluating this process of rehabilitation, whether it is children with special needs, (elderly) people suffering from cardiovascular diseases or dementia, people with mental health issues or those recovering from Covid-19.

Join us by connecting with us – whether you are working in a healthcare setting, facing challenges at home because of health issues, teaching or studying at a (medical) college or university or connected to government entities where decisions are being made we love and need to work together to reach the goal of health for everyone.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Gerdine (B.G.) Lok – B.Health Occupational Therapy President of KE





First page of the child development assessment from 'Disabled Village Children' by David Werner

