EUROPEAN EPILEPSY DAY 2014



SOMETHING CAN ALWAYS BE DONE

We face a misperception that mental health care is a luxury item on the health agenda – that care is beyond reach in resource-constrained settings, where higher mortality diseases win the lion's share of domestic and external financial support.

Mental health problems, whether depression, epilepsy, dementia, or alcohol dependence, are real disorders. They cause death and disability. They cause suffering.

They have symptoms. And they can be managed, in any resource setting. No matter how weak the health system, or how constrained the resources, something can always be done.

Excerpts from Dr Chan's Address at the Mental Health Gap (mhGAP) Action Programme Forum, Geneva, October 2010.











