- ECOTROS -
European Cooperation in
Occupational Therapy Research (OTR) &
Occupational Science (OS)

A project initiated from the
European Network of Occupational Therapy in Higher Education (ENOTHE)

ECOTROS overview of studies on occupation

Jan 2005 to December 2007
Content

In this ECOTROS-Information, you will find abstracts of current occupational science studies. The ECOTROS project group has identified the studies by simple search strategies at CI-NAHL and MEDLINE databases.

Due to the ongoing debate on criteria for Occupational Science projects we have decided not to exclude particular abstracts. Thus the readers themselves may decide what is meaning- and helpful for them. Please let us know what relevant abstracts of this period you are missing and send them to sebastian.voigt@uniklinik-freiburg.de. They will be added.

Since our overview is not comprehensive, we urgently recommend a complex and systematic search strategy in several databases and journals for specific research questions. Journals appropriate to search in for occupational science studies are as follows:

- American Journal of Occupational Therapy
- Australian Occupational Therapy Journal
- British Journal of Occupational Therapy
- Ergoscience
- International Journal of Therapy and Rehabilitation
- Journal of Occupational Science
- Occupational Therapy in Mental Health
- OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health
- Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy

Abstracts 2007


Applications of complexity science, including dynamic systems and chaos theories, have become ever-present in the social sciences. Diverse academic fields have begun to explore their central constructs from a complexity perspective. Occupational science has also begun to discover complexity science as an explanatory framework to aid in the study of occupation. Theoretical models, principles and empirical findings from a number of scholars of occupation suggest that the tenets of complexity may serve an important role in explicating the nature of occupation. However, applications of complexity science in the field of occupational science have almost exclusively focused on the system level of the human as a dynamic or chaotic system. In this article, I propose that the study of occupation should also be informed by adopting a social complexity perspective. This shift in analytic levels, in part, situates the study of occupation at the nexus of human-to-human interaction. Though a social level of analysis may restrict the attention given to any one individual, the resultant understanding of the manner by which individuals mutually influence each other via occupation would likely extend our views of the form, function and meaning of human occupation.

Rachelle Dorne shares how she emphasized occupation-based interventions to help her daughter recover from a TBI.


Sandra Rogers describes how to overcome barriers to occupation-based practice, regardless of the setting.


In the past, occupational therapists working with children based their intervention approaches on diverse disciplines such as neurophysiology, psychology or special education. In recent years, as a consequence of the further establishment of occupational science, the number of publications concerning child development and functioning using the unique concepts of occupational therapy has increased. The first purpose of this article is to present to the Hebrew reader three theoretical models that relate to the development of occupational performance in children. In addition, the recent conceptual model of health, provided by the World Health Organization's International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) has also influenced and changed the theoretical and practical definitions of the profession of occupational therapy. Thus, the second purpose of this article is to present three additional models that were developed subsequent to these up-to-date constructs. These models emphasize the factors that contribute to and affect the occupational performance and participation of typical and disabled children in all performance areas.


Occupational therapists work with individuals with learning disabilities (LD), who often have difficulties in occupational performance. Most of the literature related to this population focuses on the effects of the learning disability on academic performance. In contrast, there is little information relating to the impact the learning disability has on the daily lives of these individuals. Occupational therapists, whose work focuses on human occupation, understand the effects of the learning disability on individuals' daily lives in the various areas of occupation. As a result, occupational therapists evaluate the occupational performance and participation in daily life of individuals with LD. In addition, occupational therapists assist individuals in coping with the impact of the disability on the various occupations in which they are involved, including, self care, social participation, play and leisure, work, as well as academic activities. The purpose of this review is to present articles describing Israeli occupational therapists' research and clinical work in the field of learning disabilities. These articles were published in the IJOT in the past 15 years. The review does not include many studies by Israeli occupational therapists, which were published in the various journals abroad. This review serves as a complementary document to the position paper relating to the Role of Occupational Therapists among Individuals with LD, which is published in this issue in Hebrew (and will be published in the next issue in English). The position paper, as well as the research and clinical
work that are described in this review, reflect occupational therapists' understanding of the difficulties with which individuals with LD cope on a daily basis. Both the position paper and the review, reflect the professional view of occupational therapists of their role and contribution in this population. Within the review are embedded citations of adolescents, students and adults, who are coping with LD as well as their family members, describing their difficulties. The combination of these sources assists in demonstrating how the research and clinical work of the occupational therapists in Israel, during these years, focused on the needs of individuals who were interviewed and reflecting the implementation of the client centered approach. In addition, these sources assist in highlighting the areas in which more research and clinical work is still required.


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OBJECTIVE: There is limited research on the relationship between chronic pain and occupation. This phenomenological research study explored the lived occupational experiences of people who have chronic pain. METHOD: Via demographic questionnaires, semistructured interviews, and field notes, data were collected on 13 participants with various types of pain. RESULTS: Thematic analysis yielded one main theme: "Chronic Pain Is Life Changing." The following subthemes also emerged: "Chronic Pain Triggers Emotional Distress"; "Chronic Pain Reveals the Strength of Relationships"; "Chronic Pain and Occupation Are Reciprocally Related Forces"; and "Chronic Pain Elicits Innovative Adaptive Responses." Study participants reported experiencing myriad troubling emotions; however, they resourcefully modified their routines and tasks and found enhanced meaning in favored occupations. CONCLUSIONS: This study illuminates the importance of therapeutic listening, the innovativeness of people who have chronic pain, and the possible therapeutic potential of occupation.

PMID: 17569386 [PubMed - in process]


Participation in everyday occupations in a late phase of recovery after brain injury.

Johansson U, Högberg H, Bernspång B.

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The aim of this study was to describe to what extent individuals of working age, in a late phase after an acquired brain injury, participate in everyday occupations related to home maintenance, work, and leisure. The aim was also to evaluate if participation in different occupations influences their life satisfaction. A sample of 157 people consecutively admitted to a rehabilitation clinic between June 1995 and December 2000 answered a mailed questionnaire. The subjects who were of working age had had a brain injury on average 6 years before this study. The perceived participation was reported using the Reintegration to Normal Living Index (RNL) and life satisfaction according to an expanded version of the LiSat 11. This study showed that in this late phase of recovery after brain injury the subjects still experienced many restrictions in participation in everyday occupations. The area with the lowest reported participation was work activity while most comfort with the situation was reported for self-care. The RNL subscales showed a significant connection with satisfaction with life as a whole. Furthermore an interaction was found between the two subscales "Daily living" and "Perception of self". This study showed restrictions in participation in the community even several years after brain injury, which underlines the need for rehabilitation services long after injury.

PMID: 17538856 [PubMed - in process]


Occupational patterns of people with dementia in residential care: An ethnographic study.

Holthe T, Thorsen K, Josephsson S.

Norwegian Centre for Dementia Research, Vestfold Mental Health Care Trust. Norway.

This paper describes an ethnographic study that sought to gain knowledge of the occupational patterns of persons with dementia in a care home and how the residents perceived the group activities in which they participated. The residents' ages ranged from 82 to 92 years. They were seven women and one man. Both participant observation and interviews were used to collect data. Data analysis resulted in an ethnographic story organised around two key themes: (1) the occupational patterns of the residents, and (2) the residents' perceptions of the activities offered. In this story residents appeared passive, playing the role of guests in the care home. Residents were dependent on staff to engage in daily occupations. Interviews revealed that residents perceived participation in activities as important to their mental and physical health and an advantage of living in the care home.

PMID: 17538854 [PubMed - in process]


The influence of the environment on participation subsequent to rehabilitation as experienced by elderly people in Norway.
The aim of this study was to illuminate how the environment may influence participation among elderly people who have undergone community-based rehabilitation in Norway, after an acute illness or accident. Fourteen persons over 65 years of age were selected with the specific intention of gaining a variety of ages, both genders, and people living in different kinds of housing. Three focus groups were established and repeated interviews were held with each group. A constant comparative analysis was used to analyse the data. The main finding was that the participants experienced pressure from their environment to concentrate on performing the most necessary daily activities rather than on participation. Three main encounters with environments seemed to be important for this: encountering people and society, encountering private and formal assistance, and encountering occupation. The support that the participants received from family and friends was more important for their participation than having accessible physical environments. The findings suggest that occupational therapists must consider themselves to be part of a societal environment that can hinder participation.

PMID: 17538853 [PubMed - in process]


Very old people's experience of occupational performance outside the home: Possibilities and limitations.

Hovbrandt P, Fridlund B, Carlsson G.

Department of Health Sciences, Division of Occupational Therapy, Lund University. Sweden.

To support occupations outside the home for older people with functional limitations it is important to understand how the person, environment, and occupations influence performance. Therefore the purpose of this study was to describe how very old people experience occupational performance outside the home. Twenty-one single-living, very old persons, above 80 years, were strategically selected and interviewed. A phenomenographic approach was used for this study and the interviews were analyzed using contextual analysis. The findings showed a variation in the experience of occupational performance described in three referential aspects: keeping on doing as before, drawing on available resources, and living in constrained circumstances. Referring to everyday occupations the participants described how they continued to do what they had done before, but decline in functional capacity made it more difficult to overcome environmental barriers. They also described how they sometimes could put functional limitations aside and use their utmost capacity to reach their goals. When they could not do that any more, they had to find possibilities for occupations close to home. In order to support very old people's occupational performance outside the home, outdoor mobility has to be facilitated, including the design of the physical environment as well as possibilities for social interaction.
Spirituality as sustenance for mental health and meaningful doing: a case illustration.

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In the past 10-20 years there has been increasing interest in the relationship between spirituality and health. I interviewed six patients from community mental health centres, using a phenomenological approach to explore how concepts of spirituality, occupation and mental illness/mental health are related. One person’s story is presented to illustrate the issues. Four main themes were identified: Spirituality is a phenomenon that provides meaning to life. Spirituality can help a person cope with mental illness. Spiritual beliefs can make everyday occupations more meaningful and health-enhancing. Some people find it valuable to engage in shared occupations that focus on spirituality. Spirituality is an important and relevant issue to be discussed between patients and health practitioners, provided that practitioners can exercise sensitivity, caution, tolerance and acceptance of values that may differ from their own.

Discharge decision-making, enabling occupations, and client-centred practice.

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Rehab and Geriatrics Program, Deer Lodge Centre, Winnipeg, MB, Canada. jmoats@deer-lodge.mb.ca

BACKGROUND: Occupational therapists working in hospitals are confronted with increasingly complex discharge decisions. However, the relationship of discharge-planning strategies to the professional concepts of client-centred practice and enabling occupations has been unclear. PURPOSE: This study explored the relationship between the models of decision-making used by occupational therapists, and the professional issues of enabling occupation and client-centred practice. METHODS: Qualitative interviews were conducted with 10 occupational therapists. Data were analyzed for the presence and emergence of themes. RESULTS: Therapists try to balance the sometimes competing issues of safety and autonomy. Therapists often engage in negotiated decision-making. However, clients are sometimes excluded, despite therapists’ commitment to client-centred processes. Consideration of occupations is often neglected. PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS: Client-defined models of decision-making are insufficient for frail, cognitively-impaired people. A new, client-centred Negoti-
ated Model of Decision-Making is proposed, which facilitates decisions to enable older people with their occupations.

PMID: 17458368 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

Can J Occup Ther. 2007 Apr;74(2):78-90. Related Articles, Links

Defining spirituality and giving meaning to occupation: the perspective of community-dwelling older adults with autonomy loss.

Griffith J, Caron CD, Desrosiers J, Thibeault R.

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BACKGROUND: In the Canadian Model of Occupational Performance, meaningful occupation involves interaction between spirituality and environment. However little research exists on the process of giving meaning to occupation. PURPOSE: This study explored both meaningful occupation and the definition of spirituality from the perspective of community-dwelling older adults with autonomy loss. METHOD: Using a qualitative approach, grounded theory method of Glaser and Strauss (1967), eight cognitively intact persons were interviewed individually. RESULTS: The process of giving meaning to occupation involves an intrinsic link between identity and meaningful occupation, with identity being central to the person. Following autonomy loss, a process of adjusting identity, involving social, psychological and spiritual aspects, occurs over time. Spirituality is defined in terms of its close links to religion and belief in a benevolent greater power. IMPLICATIONS OF RESEARCH: This study contributes to the discussion of the concepts of spirituality, identity and meaning in occupational therapy.

Publication Types:
Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't

PMID: 17458367 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]


Influences of the social environment on engagement in occupations: the experience of persons with rheumatoid arthritis.

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The aim of this explorative study was to describe and enhance the understanding of how persons with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) experience the influence of the social environment on their engagement in occupations. Nine persons were interviewed and the data obtained were analysed using a comparative method. The findings revealed that other persons in the social environment influenced informants' experiences of engaging in occupations in two ways, which formed the categories: "Constructive collaboration" and "Insufficient collaboration". These categories had certain properties related to the actions the others undertook to assist the informants during their collaboration. These assisting actions influenced the informants' possibilities to engage in occupations, and also their experience of engagement. The findings also showed that the "Conditions for collaboration" varied and influenced their collaboration, which thereby constituted a third category. The findings may contribute to a deeper understanding of how other persons can facilitate and restrict meaningful occupational experiences. This provides knowledge that can be used by occupational therapists when empowering their clients and those close to them to reflect on their actions and the consequences of these actions to enhance occupational engagement.

Publication Types:
Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't

PMID: 17366079 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]


Dressing and grooming: preferences of community-dwelling older adults.

Cohen-Mansfield J, Jensen B.

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This study explored dressing and grooming habits and preferences of older adults. Fifty-eight community-dwelling older persons (mean age = 80 years) in suburban Maryland responded to the Self-maintenance Habits and Preferences in Elderly (SHAPE) questionnaire. There was a large variability in preferences, and all items were very important for at least some of the participants. Women attributed higher levels of importance to dressing and grooming than did men. Importance ratings increased with level of education and were higher for unmarried persons, but were not related to age or need for assistance with instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs). On an individual basis, this information can be used to suggest items for interventions or to structure a personal care environment. Alternately, it can be used in the aggregate as a guideline for designing programs of care to reflect the preferences of a majority of older persons.

Publication Types:
Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't

PMID: 17310661 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

Everyday occupation, well-being, and identity: the experience of caregivers in families with dementia.

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The purpose of this study was to gain understanding of the nature of the daily occupations of caregivers for family members with dementia as related to the caregivers’ perceptions of well-being. Qualitative telephone interviews, focused on the experience of caregiving, were conducted with 33 caregiver-respondents; the data were transcribed and analyzed using a phenomenological approach. Everyday occupation emerged as a phenomenon that was central to the caregivers' ways of evaluating and monitoring well-being in the care receivers and themselves. Further, occupational engagement served to help mitigate the potential biographical disruption of the dementia caregiving experience. The implications for occupational therapy personnel are convincing: Everyday occupation holds promise for contributing to the relative well-being of both caregivers and care receivers and for facilitating continuity of relationships and identity for the caregiver.

Publication Types:
Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov’t

PMID: 17302101 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
Abstracts 2006

<1>
Accession Number
2009265342.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
Haggblom-Kronlof G. Sonn U.
Title
Interests that occupy 86-year-old persons living at home: associations with functional ability, self-rated health and sociodemographic characteristics.
Source
Australian Occupational Therapy Journal. 2006 Sep; 53(3): 196-204. (34 ref)
Abbreviated Source
AUST OCCUP THER J. 2006 Sep; 53(3): 196-204. (34 ref)
Abstract
Background and Aims: Interest is generated from the experience of pleasure in occupational behaviour. However, there is little known about the type and amount of interests that occupy very old people. The aims of the present study were to explore the interests of people aged 86 years who are living at home (n = 205) and to study the association between these interests and functional ability, self-rated health and sociodemographic characteristics. Methods: Participants were interviewed during home visits and data were analysed by using content analysis and statistics. Results: Participants had a broad range of interests. Personal and environmental factors played a part in people giving up their interests. Participants who regarded their health as good or who had no problems in carrying out daily activities had more interests than those with poor health or limited ability to participate in daily activities. Few differences based on gender and sociodemographics were found. Conclusions: Being active (i.e. practising many interests) also means experiencing good health. In the name of occupational justice, it is important to enable elderly persons to pursue interests.

<2>
Accession Number
2009242333.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
Douglas FM.
Title
Occupational balance: the relationship between daily occupations and wellbeing.
Source
International Journal of Therapy and Rehabilitation. 2006 Jul; 13(7): 298. (8 ref)
Abbreviated Source
INT J THER REHABIL. 2006 Jul; 13(7): 298. (8 ref)
Abstract
Fiona M Douglas addresses the concept of individuals as 'occupational beings' with a need to maintain a balance between competing occupations in day-to-day living.
An occupation-centered discussion of development and implications for practice.

Abstract
Children's learning to do everyday activities seems so obvious that the mechanisms bringing about the development of occupations remain essentially unstudied. Therefore, occupational therapy uses developmental models from other disciplines as foundation for practice. We specialists in childhood occupations need a theory-based and empirically tested body of knowledge about the processes leading to change to inform practice and guide interventions during efficacy studies. One body of knowledge about developmental mechanisms views change as originating from within the child and informs practice centered on changing the child. Given the inseparable nature of children and their social environments and daily activities, we introduce the philosophy of contextualism and outline a potential body of knowledge about a change process that is occupation centered. An intervention arising from a contextual perspective illustrates how this way of thinking leads to occupation-centered practice that uses multiple strategies and supports a child's occupation with social participation with peers.

Change and continuity: retrospective thoughts about the protective and sustaining nature of a meaningful occupation.

Abstract
Occupation is multifaceted and ubiquitous. In this article, the value and importance of one valued occupation is explored in retrospect by the first author. At times of change and transition, adaptation can be accompanied and facilitated by occupations, which may protect and sustain the individual through the period of discontinuity. In this situation, a granddaughter reflects upon the powerfulness of poetry as an occupation which protected her grandmother's
transition from independent living to becoming part of her own daughter's family. The impact upon her grandchildren was considerable. The poetry books acted as transitional objects, but in addition, reading, recitations and the associations that the chosen poems had, seemed to protect her grandmother's wellbeing. In a joyful way, poetry seemed to have become an inter-generational occupation in this family whereby four generations of women had or continue to enjoy it. More importantly poetry continues to provide a link of memory and admiration with the person who introduced them to it.

<5>
Accession Number
2009220115.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
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Institution
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Title
An exploration of mothers' perceptions regarding mothering occupations and experiences.
Source
Abbreviated Source
OCCUP THER HEALTH CARE. 2006; 20(2): 51-73. (26 ref)
Abstract
The objective of this phenomenological study was to explore mothers' perceptions related to the occupational experiences of mothering. Seven women between the ages of 24 and 42, with children ranging in age from 13 months to 18 years, were interviewed in two separate focus groups. Areas addressed in the semi-structured interviews included mothering role descriptions, experiences as mothers, and feelings about mothering. Data were collected by the use of field notes and audio recording. An inductive method of data analysis was used to code the transcribed narratives. Four major themes emerged that included sociocultural influence, activities and occupations of mothering, range of feelings, and role management. Some differences between older and younger women emerged in the analysis. Perceptions of mothering occupations influence the manner in which mothers participate in their everyday activities. Exploring the perceptions of mothering among women of typical children is valuable for occupational scientists and occupational therapists seeking to understand families better. Increased awareness may lead to more optimal family-centered care.

<6>
Accession Number
2009220065.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
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Title
Occupation as a vehicle to surmount the psychosocial challenges of cancer.

Source

Abstract
Research indicates that cancer presents challenges to one's social relationships, identity, and ability to live each day to the fullest. Occupation can be a powerful vehicle that one can use to respond to and cope with these psychosocial challenges. However, literature also suggests that occupation can be a problematic vehicle because many persons with cancer report frustration with their ability to engage in daily occupations. This paper synthesizes the research describing these psychosocial challenges and explores the nature of occupational engagement for persons with the life-threatening illness of cancer. Interpreting the research from the standpoint of the Person-Environment-Occupation Model suggests that variations in the congruence between person, environment, and occupation is an intuitively plausible explanation for differing perceptions of the quality of occupational engagement for persons with cancer.

<7>

Accession Number
2009250935.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

Author
Gevir D. Goldstand S. Weintraub N. Parush S.

Institution
Pediatric Occupational Therapist and Student Supervisor, School of Occupational Therapy, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel.

Title
A comparison of time use between mothers of children with and without disabilities.

Source
OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health. 2006 Summer; 26(3): 117-27. (47 ref)

Abstract
This study compared time use, perceptions regarding the meaningfulness and enjoyment of occupations, and perceptions of ability to balance time use between mothers of children with mental retardation (n = 29), motor difficulties (n = 30), attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (n = 30), and typical development (n = 31). No significant differences were found between groups in the amount of time spent in various occupations (i.e., activities with their children, home maintenance, leisure, rest and sleep, and work), in their perceptions of meaningfulness and enjoyment of the occupations performed, or in their perceived ability to balance time use. However, mothers who were frequently helped by external caregivers reported significantly more enjoyment from "activities with their children" and "home maintenance," and significantly less meaning from "rest and sleep" than those who did not. Moreover, mothers who reported that they received frequent help derived more satisfaction from their ability to balance time. These results highlight the importance of mothers' receiving assistance to how they
perceive their daily occupations and their ability to balance time, factors that positively affect maternal and family well-being.

<8>
Accession Number
2009190935.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
Amarshi F. Artero L. Reid D.
Institution
Occupational Therapist, University of Toronto, Dept of Occupational Therapy, 160-500 University Ave, 9th floor, Toronto, Ontario M5G 1V7, Canada.
Title
Exploring social and leisure participation among stroke survivors: part two... including commentary by Kearney PM, Jonsson A, and Gillen G.
Source
International Journal of Therapy and Rehabilitation. 2006 May; 13(5): 199-208. (18 ref)
Abbreviated Source
INT J THER REHABIL. 2006 May; 13(5): 199-208. (18 ref)
Abstract
Older adults who live in the community often report decreased levels of social and leisure participation following stroke. A qualitative study using open-ended, focused interviews was conducted with a sample of 12 older adult stroke survivors. This study aimed to explore how often older adult stroke survivors participate in social and leisure activities, the meaning(s) associated with this participation and the factors felt to hinder or contribute to this participation. Background information and the methodology are described in part one.

In this second part, the findings and discussion of the interviews are provided. Using a modified grounded theory approach to analysis, four main themes emerged from the data: 'it's a completely different life'; 'what limits me from participating'; 'what I need to participate'; and 'continuing on with my life'. A model was developed to describe the potential relationships between the themes generated.

This study highlights the re-establishment of continuity in social and leisure participation following stroke. The findings provide implications for health-care providers, who can help in developing programmes that support social and leisure participation among stroke survivors in the community.

<9>
Accession Number
2009220199.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
Schwartzman AJ. Atler K. Borg B. Schwartzman RC.
Title
Fueling the engines: a role for occupational therapy in promoting healthy life transitions.
Source
Abbreviated Source

Abstract
This article explores the potential role of occupational therapy in promoting healthy life transitions among people without illness or disease. The story of Roxana, a woman who moved with her family from Mexico to the United States, is described. The many transitions Roxana experienced are examined using the Person-Environment-Occupation Model. Implications for practice focus on assessment and intervention strategies that can help practitioners and individuals experiencing transitions use occupation to prevent illness and promote health.

<10>
Accession Number
2009140882.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

Author
Sakellariou D. Algado SS.

Title
Sexuality and disability: a case of occupational injustice.

Source
British Journal of Occupational Therapy. 2006 Feb; 69(2): 69-76. (57 ref)

Abbreviated Source
BR J OCCUP THER. 2006 Feb; 69(2): 69-76. (57 ref)

Abstract
Sexuality is an integral part of human life; however, people with disabilities often report an unsatisfying sexual life. The aim of this study was both to explore the reasons for the reported unsatisfying life and to reframe it in terms of occupational injustice and denial of participation in meaningful occupation.

In-depth interviews were carried out with six men with a spinal cord injury. Thematic analysis was applied to the data and formed the basis for the textural description of the participants’ experiences.

The study participants generally found that certain societal beliefs and attitudes had an impact on their participation in sexuality-related occupations. They were experiencing occupational injustice as a result of the restriction of engagement in meaningful occupation. Impairment per se was usually not perceived as a barrier to a fulfilling sexual life.

The study concluded that occupational therapists should embrace occupational justice as the main purpose of the profession and include issues of sexuality in their agenda.

<11>
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2009186640.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

Author
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Title
Occupation as transactional experience: a critique of individualism in occupational science.
Occupational science uses various concepts to denote occupation as residing within the individual. That is, despite recognizing the role of a context for the individual and her or his occupation, occupational scientists have continued to implicitly or explicitly create a dualistic view of person and context (environment). The dualism creates a problem for understanding occupation as well as the relationship of person and context. In this paper we present occupationally-focused case studies of two individuals and assert that existing concepts of occupation in the discipline cannot encompass the situations represented by these cases. We propose the Deweyan concept of transaction as an alternative perspective for understanding occupation. The relational perspective of transactionalism means that occupation is no longer seen as a thing or as a type of self-action or inter-action arising from within individuals. In this view, occupation is an important mode through which human beings, as organisms-in-environment-as-a-whole, function in their complex totality. As such, occupations become more central to the scientific understanding of person-context relations.

The Experience Sampling Methodology (ESM) being elaborated within flow theory provides a unique opportunity to collect data about occupational experiences. Both four- and eight-channel models have been developed, to capture various dimensions of people's lived experience. However neither of these models seems suitable for analysis and discussion of balance within everyday life and its relationship to other factors such as well-being. The purpose of this study was to analyse balance of everyday occupations from a novel experiential viewpoint, using an alternative model in which the eight channels are condensed into three dimensions; High Matched Experiences, High Not Matched Experiences and Low Challenge Experiences. A secondary analysis of published data from four cross-cultural ESM-studies with a total of 159 participants from three countries was conducted. The results show a similar pattern in all samples, with Low Challenge Experiences comprising barely half of the pattern and the other two dimensions relatively evenly distributed. Analyses of three case examples indicate possible problems regarding balance conditions between the different dimensions. The
analysis supports the condensed model as a framework to understand and analyse occupational balance and patterns from an experiential perspective. This dynamic model has the potential to explain the relationship between everyday dimensions of occupations as a health promoting balance as well as potentially dysfunctional patterns causing occupational deprivation or risk of overload and burnout.

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2009186601.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
Ellegard K.
Institution
Professor, Tema Institute, Technology and Social Change, Linkoping University, Sweden; kajel@tema.liu.se.
Title
The power of categorisation in the study of everyday life.
Source
Abbreviated Source
J OCCUP SCI. 2006 Apr; 13(1): 37-48. (20 ref)
Abstract
How do categorisation schemes influence the results in studies of everyday life? This article identifies the consequences of using an empirically generated category scheme (EGCS) versus an analytically derived category scheme (ADCS) based on a two-step comparison. In the first step, the same diary was coded using both the ADCS and EGCS, and the results compared. This step showed that EGCS has greater potential to distinguish between everyday occupational patterns because the categories are more specific, even at the least detailed level. The comparison is, however, somewhat unfair since the main categories differ. To avoid this problem, a second step was taken transforming the ADCS-codes into EGCS, resulting in EGCS(t=translated). The diary coded directly by EGCS gave more detailed results than by EGCS(t, but both are potentially better able to distinguish between different everyday occupational patterns than the ADCS. It is suggested that EGCS might be useful in occupational science because it comprises the whole day, its classification of occupations is specific, and it has been shown to be useful for individual rehabilitation purposes as well as for describing and analysing everyday life on individual, household and population levels. For example EGCS can better detect the everyday life of a mother since EGCS specifies various kinds of household occupations at main category level. Further, if ADCS-coded diaries are translated into EGCS(t) similar results are yielded, however, more vague. The EGCS classification of occupations is suggested when policy changes are to be made, since a democratic dialogue between policy makers and citizens is facilitated when people can recognise conditions that resemble their daily lives.
Author
Erlandsson L.  Eklund M.
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Title
Levels of complexity in patterns of daily occupations: relationship to women's well-being.
Source
Abbreviated Source
J OCCUP SCI. 2006 Apr; 13(1): 27-36. (42 ref)
Abstract
The study builds on a previous study of the everyday occupations of 100 women who worked at home and in the paid workforce. Their pattern of daily occupations was depicted using time-occupation graphs inspired by the time geography method, whereby the women's pattern of occupations were categorised and clustered according to complexity. For each woman, the level of complexity was operationalised as the frequency of shifting between three categories of occupation (main, hidden, and unexpected) and sleep, along with the frequency of unexpected occupations and whether shifts in type of occupation were concentrated in limited parts of the day, e.g., the mornings. The study had two aims. First, to test the hypothesis that among women who work at home and in the paid workforce, those with low-complex patterns of daily occupations would rate their health and well-being higher than women having medium-complex patterns. As well, those with medium-complex patterns would rate their health and well-being better than women with high-complex patterns. Secondly, the study aimed to investigate differences among these subgroups in relation to sociodemographic factors. The hypothesis was partly confirmed. Increasing complexity was associated with lower levels of self-rated health, but not with lower levels of sense of coherence and well-being. With respect to sociodemographic factors, the women in the three subgroups differed in terms of level of education. The results tentatively confirm theoretical assumptions of a link between patterns of daily occupations and experiences of health, and provide an incentive for further research on this relationship.

Accession Number
2009186587.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
Alsaker S.  Jakobsen K.  Magnus E.  Bendixen HJ.  Kroksmark U.  Nordell K.
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Title
Everyday occupations of occupational therapy and physiotherapy students in Scandinavia.
Source
Abbreviated Source
Abstract
This study explored the repertoire of everyday occupations of Scandinavian occupational and physiotherapy students. A time geographic method was used, whereby students in different countries were asked to keep diaries for the same period. Diaries from 22 students were analysed, from which three main time consuming occupational projects were identified: 1) Professional training, 2) Care of oneself, and 3) Recreation. These projects are presented and discussed in the context of everyday life faced by today's generation of young adults, who have grown up in a global context and a rapidly changing world: A situation that might have consequences for the way students live their everyday occupational lives. The results show that identity related issues may be inherent in their most time-consuming occupations, and that their daily pattern of occupation is repetitive. The students arrange their everyday lives to ensure that social interaction with other students is incorporated. They spend time in few places and perform a limited repertoire of occupations, and their occupational patterns reflect the contemporary values for young adults in Scandinavia.
Institution
Assistant Professor, Department of Postgraduate and Further Education, University College South, Vordingborg, Denmark; hans.joergen.bendixen@cvusyd.dk.

Title
Occupational pattern: a renewed definition of the concept.

Source

Abstract
Patterns are regular ways of acting or doing something. The literature provides definitions at three levels; Action patterns at the level of bodily and anatomical function, activity patterns at the level of the ability to perform activities, and occupational patterns at the level of participation in social life. This article draws on insights arising from a time geographical study of Scandinavian bachelor students which presents a broader definition. Regular ways of acting or doing are conceptualised from the perspective of parallel activities, where two or more activities or occupations are performed simultaneously. The proposed reconceptualisation of occupational patterns also acknowledges that human beings relate occupations and occupational patterns to occupational projects, where an assembly of activities and occupations are interconnected and have a unifying goal that is given value by the individual and by the social environment.

Accession Number
2009115620.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

Author
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Title
Challenge-skills and mindfulness: an exploration of the conundrum of flow process.

Source

Abstract
The process of flow, a psychological state that seems to occur during optimal human experience, is currently unclear. This exploratory study examines how flow begins and what happens during and after a flow experience. A phenomenological approach was taken to examine the flow experiences of an artist, a musician, and a horticulturist. Participants kept journals and participated in semi-structured interviews. The results suggest that two phenomena, "challenge-skills" and "mindfulness," were identified as being "flow" experiences. Challenge-skills and mindfulness had some common features. Both involved living in the present moment, not worrying, and performing activities because they were intrinsically rewarding. They were distinctly different experiences in regard to the effort involved, the perception of time, and the consequences of the experience. Understanding the process of challenge-skills and mindful-
ness may have implications for our understanding of the relationship between occupation, consciousness, and health and for occupational therapy practice.

<19>
Accession Number
2009161158  NLM Unique Identifier: 16700245.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
Grossman S.  Lange J.
Institution
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Title
Theories of aging as basis for assessment.
Source
MEDSURG Nursing. 2006 Apr; 15(2): 77-83. (36 ref)
Abbreviated Source
MEDSURG NURS. 2006 Apr; 15(2): 77-83. (36 ref)
Abstract
Based on biopsychosocial theories of aging, a tool was developed to assist nurses in conducting holistic adult admission assessments. The Adult Assessment Tool can facilitate comprehensive, bestpractice decisions in caring for hospitalized middle-aged and older adults.

<20>
Accession Number
2009140927.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
Holubar MN.  Rice MS.
Institution
Department of Occupational Therapy, College of Health Sciences, Medical University of Ohio, Toledo, Ohio.
Title
The effects of contextual relevance and ownership on a reaching and placing task.
Source
Abbreviated Source
AUST OCCUP THER J. 2006 Mar; 53(1): 35-42. (19 ref)
Abstract
Aim: This study investigated whether a more familiar environment and object ownership would result in enhanced motor performance. Methods: Thirty-two women from the community aged 30 to 60 years lifted and placed their mug and a second mug they did not own in their home kitchen and in a laboratory. Results: Although no differences were found on the factor of location, participants were more efficient (i.e. less movement time) when reaching for their own mug. Additionally, there were fewer movement units with their own mug in the lab than when at home. Conclusions: Implications are that perceived compatibility between
context and ownership may influence the quality of movement. Further research is needed to investigate the role these factors have in the formation of meaning.

<21>
Accession Number
2009149792.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
O'Sullivan G. Hocking C.
Title
Positive ageing in residential care.
Source
Abbreviated Source
NZ J OCCUP THER. 2006 Mar; 53(1): 17-23. (65 ref)
Abstract
Evidence shows that participation in occupations promoting physical activity, social stimulation and a sense of identity, slow age related decline and enhance functional capacity. Drawing on that knowledge and experiences in practice, the authors propose that given purposeful occupations older people in residential care homes could live each day with a sense of dignity and satisfaction. Instead, many people in care experience a level of occupational deprivation that undermines personal health and well-being. This situation is described as neglect. It can arise from social attitudes, inadequate funding and inappropriate systems of care. This is contrary to current New Zealand government policy on positive ageing.
Abstracts 2005

<1>
Accession Number
2009318351.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract.
Author
Fingerhut PE.
Title
The impact of caring for children with special needs on the ability of parents/caregivers to engage in occupations to support participation.
Source
(Texas Woman's University) ** 2005; Ph.D. 202 p.
Abstract
The International Classification of Functioning and Disability (ICF, 2001) has refocused the World Health Organization's (WHO) analysis of health from a paradigm of disease and cure to a wellness perspective of health and ability to participate in life situations. This perspective is central to the practice of occupational therapy. "Engagement in occupation to support participation in context is the focus and targeted end objective of occupational therapy intervention" (Occupational Therapy Practice Framework: Domain and Practice, OTPF, 2002) (p. 611).

Along with this shift in focus has come a focus on family centered practice and increased recognition of contextual factors when working with the client (Case-Smith, 2001; Lawlor & Mattingly, 1998). The definition of client has been expanded to include individuals or groups significant in caring for the primary client. Within the family, parents are the central and consistent figures in the lives of children with special needs. Subsequently, focus on the ability of parents/caregivers to engage in occupation to support participation is an important aspect of family centered practice.

This dissertation was designed to explore the ability of parents/caregivers raising children with special needs to engage in occupation to support participation in context. The line of research was conducted in a series of three studies. The first was a literature review exploring the constructs of participation, family centered practice, the effects on parents of raising a child with special needs, and instruments available to measure the ability of parents/caregivers to engage in occupation to support participation.

The second study involved the development and pilot testing of an instrument to measure parents/caregiver's satisfaction with the efficiency (quantity) and effectiveness (quality) of their ability to engage in occupation to support participation. An occupational adaptation (OA) frame of reference was used in the design of this instrument (Schkade & Schultz, 1992; Schultz & Schkade, 1992).

The third study was a qualitative inquiry into the phenomenon of how pediatric occupational therapists (OTs) viewed their practice as family centered.

Reliable and valid instruments are needed to measure outcomes of occupational therapy directed at improving ability to engage in occupation to support participation in context. The Life Participation for Parents (LPP) was designed to meet this need.

<2>
Accession Number
2009167157.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

Author
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Title
Understanding the occupational human being as a complex, dynamical, adaptive system.

Source

Abstract
The purpose of this pilot study was to investigate whether the complex occupational human being may be understood using constructs derived from chaos theory such as dependence on initial conditions, fractality, and attractor conditions (Bassingthwaighte, Liebovich, & West, 1994; Buell & Cassidy, 2001; Fraser & Greenhalgh, 2001). Quantitative and qualitative data consisting of daily activities engaged in for 21 days by nine students at the University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania, was collected using activity inventories. Data analysis revealed that although the findings need to be interpreted with caution due to a small, homogeneous sample, there are indications that the above mentioned constructs from chaos theory may be used to understand the complex occupational human being.

Accession Number
2009045835.

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Title
Caregivers’ self-initiated support toward their partners with dementia when performing an everyday occupation together at home.

Source
OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health. 2005 Fall; 25(4): 149-59. (43 ref)

Abstract
The aim of this study was to identify the support caregivers provide by their own initiative when performing an everyday occupation together with their partner who has dementia. This is to identify what type of self-initiated caregiver support enhances or limits the performance of the person with dementia. Thirty cohabitating couples participated. One of the spouses in each couple was the primary caregiver for a partner with mild to moderate dementia. Observational data were collected in the participants’ homes, where each couple was asked to prepare afternoon tea together. The performances were documented by video and supplementary field notes. Data were analyzed using a qualitative comparative approach. The results of the analyses identified two major themes related to support the caregivers provided: provision of a
supportive working climate and provision of practical support. A third theme was related to negative aspects of caregiver support. The results of this study have implications for how occupational therapists and caregivers in dementia care can support and guide primary caregivers in their homes.

<4>
Accession Number
2005057518.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
Daunhauer L.A.  Bolton A.  Cermak SA.
Title
Time-use patterns of young children institutionalized in Eastern Europe.
Source
Abbreviated Source
OTJR OCCUP PARTICIPATION HEALTH. 2005 Winter; 25(1): 33-40. (35 ref)
Abstract
This study describes time-use patterns of children institutionalized in an Eastern European orphanage and examines differences in time-use between institutionalized children and those attending child care in the United States. Thirty-two children between the ages of 8 and 34 months participated. Sixteen institutionalized children and 16 typical, family-reared children attending child care were matched approximately for age and gender. Inter-rater reliability of the observers' time-use observations was established at 92% agreement (range, 81% to 98%). Results indicated children living in the institution spent significantly less time with adults, engaged in significantly different activities, and spent less time in adult-led activities compared to the childcare group (chi² = 9.94, p < .01; chi² = 23.51, p ≤ .001; and chi² = 16.45, p < .001, respectively). Where the children spent time and their observable affect did not differ significantly between groups (chi² = .64, ns; and chi² = .68, ns, respectively). Differences between the groups' occupations and engagement with others highlight factors that may contribute to developmental delays in institutionalized children.

<5>
Accession Number
2005057516.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
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Title
The construction of keyforms for obtaining instantaneous measures from the Occupational Performance History Interview rating scales.
Source
Abbreviated Source
Abstract
Occupational therapists routinely use rating scales to indicate a client's level of functioning, monitor progress, and evaluate intervention success. Rating scales yield ordinal data, whereas true measurement requires interval level data. Rasch analysis can convert rating scale data into true interval measures, but the use of measures derived from this method is limited in everyday occupational therapy practice because raw data must be computer scored. The keyform is an alternative to computer scoring. It is a paper-and-pencil form with which the therapist can record and convert ratings to interval measures while exercising intuitive quality control of the data. This article illustrates the application of this methodology to the Occupational Performance History Interview-2nd Version (OPHI-II). The authors discuss the OPHI-II scales, describe the methodology for developing the keyforms, and demonstrate how they are used.

Accession Number
2009119945.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

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Title
Psychometric characteristics of the Child Occupational Self-Assessment (COSA), part two: refining the psychometric properties.

Source

Abstract
Self-assessment is an appropriate way to support client-centered practice and promote personal development in young occupational therapy clients. This study, the second study in a series of two, sought to refine the psychometric properties based on previous analysis of the Child Occupational Self-Assessment (COSA), a self-report tool based on the Model of Human Occupation. The COSA comprises 24 statements, which the child rates in terms of personal competence and importance. The Rasch Rating Scale Model was used to evaluate the measurement properties of the Competence and Values scales that result from these self-ratings. The original three-point rating scale was expanded to four response categories in this study, which resulted in improved reliability and sensitivity. In this second study, the items once again coalesced to form measures of competence and values, and the order of items from less to more competence and value was similar to that in the first study, supporting the internal validity of the COSA scales. The results provide evidence that the COSA can be used as meaningful and reliable client-directed assessment tool as well as an outcome measure.

Accession Number
2009109673.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

Author
Roche R. Taylor RR.

Title
Coping and occupational participation in chronic fatigue syndrome.

Source
OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health. 2005; 25(2): 75-83. (51 ref)

Abbreviated Source
OTJR OCCUP PARTICIPATION HEALTH. 2005; 25(2): 75-83. (51 ref)

Abstract
Existing studies have shown that individuals with chronic fatigue syndrome demonstrate functional impairment in several domains related to occupational participation. Researchers have not yet explored whether coping styles may be associated with occupational participation in individuals with this condition. The aim of this study was to examine the effects of coping styles on occupational participation among adults with chronic fatigue syndrome. The authors hypothesized that occupational participation would be associated with coping strategies oriented toward information seeking and maintaining activity, and that this relationship would endure despite individual differences in illness severity. The study used a cross-sectional design to describe the associations between coping and occupational participation for 47 individuals diagnosed as having chronic fatigue syndrome. Findings from linear regression analysis revealed that the coping style of maintaining activity was positively associated with occupational participation, whereas illness accommodation was negatively associated. Implications of the findings for continued research and clinical practice in occupational therapy are discussed.

<8>

Accession Number
2009109647.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

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Title
The effect of constraint-induced movement treatment on occupational performance and satisfaction in stroke survivors.

Source

Abbreviated Source

Abstract
Stroke is a leading cause of disability and impaired arm function is a common consequence. Constraint-induced movement treatment is a technique used to increase weak arm use and to decrease motor deficits resulting from stroke. Eleven stroke survivors participated in a constraint-induced movement treatment protocol of 31/2 hours of treatment per day for 8 days. Participants experienced significantly increased use of the weak arm in daily activities, which was measured by the Motor Activity Log, and a trend toward improved coordination in the
weak arm, which was measured by the Wolf Motor Function Test. Participants did not report significant improvements in average performance or satisfaction in self-identified occupational performance problems. When these problems were analyzed individually, no significant differences were seen immediately post-treatment. However, significant improvements were seen for satisfaction at 4 to 6 months post-treatment. The occupational performance problems identified by the participants were equally divided between problems related to hand use and problems not related to hand use. Approximately half of the non-hand use problems involved endurance. Although participants in this study did make improvements in arm use and coordination, they did not identify improvements in average occupational performance or satisfaction as an outcome of constraint-induced movement treatment.
The aim of this study was to uncover and describe the meanings and motives for engagement in self-chosen daily life occupations for elderly individuals with Alzheimer's disease dwelling in the community. Six participants with Alzheimer's disease were included. Data were collected through repeated interviews and observations focusing on their motives for their self-chosen occupational engagement and the significance of the daily occupations. The analysis used a qualitative comparative and interpretative method. The findings show that the participants' occupations supported their ordinary pattern of everyday life and provided them with an opportunity to be in a coherent context. The occupations also allowed them to experience and communicate autonomy and certain characteristics of their identity and provided them with a private sphere. The findings revealed certain crucial but double-edged environmental keys to occupation. By identifying and supporting everyday occupations with personal meaning and value, therapists and caregivers may contribute to the well-being of individuals with Alzheimer's disease living in their own homes.
Herbert James Hall, MD (1870-1923), was a pioneer in the systematic and organized study of occupation as therapy for persons with nervous and mental disorders that he called the "work cure." He began his work in 1904 during the early years of the Arts and Crafts Movement in the United States. His primary interest was the disorder neurasthenia, a condition with many symptoms including chronic fatigue, stress, and inability to work or perform everyday tasks. The prevailing treatment of the day was absolute bed rest known as the "rest cure." Hall believed that neurasthenia was not caused by overwork but by faulty living habits that could be corrected through an ordered life schedule and selected occupations. He identified several principles of therapy that are still used today including graded activity and energy conservation. Dr. Adolph Meyer credits Hall for organizing the ideas on the therapeutic use of occupation (Meyer, 1922). Hall also provided the name American Occupational Therapy Association for the professional organization and served as the fourth president. For his many contributions to the profession Hall deserves to be recognized as a major contributor to the development and organization of occupational therapy.
practice, the main issues being the market value of crafts and their use as a diversion. This article also includes Hall’s psychological principles of indirection, equivalents, immunity, and substitution, and the graded process as observed and applied to the disabled.

<14>

Accession Number
2009052102.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

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Title
Psychometric characteristics of the child occupational self assessment (COSA), part one: an initial examination of psychometric properties.

Source

Abbreviated Source

Abstract
Pediatric occupational therapists have a unique opportunity to foster self-determination by involving young clients in assessment and intervention planning. Self-assessment is an appropriate way to support client-centered practice and self-determination. This study is the first in a series of two studies that examined the psychometric properties of the Child Occupational Self Assessment (COSA), a self-report tool based on the Model of Human Occupation. The COSA comprises 24 statements, which the child rates in terms of personal competence and importance. The Rasch Rating Scale Model was used to evaluate the measurement properties of the Competence and Values scales that result from these self-ratings. Analysis indicated that the items worked well together to constitute measures of occupational competence and values. However, the instrument was not sufficiently sensitive to discriminate among respondents. Future recommendations are made to expand the rating scales in order to increase client discrimination so that the COSA can also be used as an outcome assessment. The results provide initial evidence that the COSA can be used as meaningful and reliable client directed assessment tool.

<15>

Accession Number
2009056499.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

Author
Gould A. DeSouza S. Rebeiro-Gruhl KL.

Title
And then I lost that life: a shared narrative of four young men with schizophrenia.

Source

Abbreviated Source
Abstract
A qualitative research study was conducted to explore the occupational needs and interests of young men, aged 18-30 years, who had been diagnosed with schizophrenia. Four men participated in two focus groups and described their daily occupations, both before and after diagnosis.

The constant comparative method of data analysis was used to generate the categories inductively, yielding several common themes and stories. A shared narrative was subsequently identified, which best reflected the collective lost dreams, disruptions and losses resulting from a diagnosis of schizophrenia.

The chapters of the participants' narrative describe a common struggle of attempting to rebuild lives in spite of persistent perceived barriers. The research sheds light upon the use of occupation in assisting young men to reclaim lost dreams and lives, as well as upon the impact of diagnosis on occupational engagement.

Accession Number
2009066592.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

Author
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Occupational Therapist, Regional Mental Health Care, London Ontario.

Title
Going for gold: understanding occupational engagement in elite-level wheelchair basketball athletes.

Source

Abstract
This article explores the meaning given to participating in elite-level wheelchair basketball by athletes with lower extremity physical disabilities. Using qualitative methods this study explored the personal experiences and meanings ascribed to this occupation by ten men and six women from two National Teams. Expressed throughout the interviews were the numerous personal and financial sacrifices, the challenge and determination to better themselves, the importance of team mates, and the Program of Wheelchair Basketball. An esprit de corps was fostered through close team bonds and unconditional acceptance while striving to achieve the common goals of winning and attaining recognition of wheelchair basketball as an elite sport and themselves as athletes. Three major themes arose: 1) "The Love of the Game", with sub-themes, Going for the Gold, Overcoming Disability, and Commitment & Challenge, 2) "Esprit de Corps", with sub-themes, Team as a Second Family and Fun & Friendship, and 3) "Raising the Bar", with sub-themes, Recognition of the Sport and Recognition as an Athlete. It was apparent that these athletes loved the game and were challenged to go for the gold medal. Understanding the experiences of these individuals provides evidence of the importance of sport as a form of occupational engagement in the lives of individuals who experience disability.
Occupations of masculinity: producing gender through what men do and don't do.

While gender shapes engagement in occupations, occupations are also means through which we construct gender. Based on qualitative interviews with 11 young men in Newfoundland, Canada, this paper explores the ways they produce masculinity through particular occupations focused on bodies. They strive to construct muscular bodies through cardiovascular exercise, weight-training, and 'eating right.' These occupations hold explicit meanings for them, such as increasing their heterosexual desirability, peer respect and popularity. They also have less obvious meanings that concern displaying and reinforcing masculinity. At the same time, men may engage in much less visible occupations that help produce masculinity: constant (but unacknowledged) bodily comparisons with other men, monitoring their speech to ensure its masculinity, actively hiding the effort required to produce a particular image, and concealing the fact that they care about their appearance at all. Gender is more than an influence on occupation; it is produced through occupation.
revealed that occupational potential is a highly complex phenomenon that gradually develops over time. It also showed that each person's occupational potential is unique, due to the interaction of a host of personal and environmental influences that affect its trajectory. Based on the study findings, the author proposes an additional description of occupational potential: people's capacity to do what they are required and have opportunity to do, to become who they have the potential to be. It is recommended that the term occupational potential be assimilated into the lexicon of occupational science and that occupational science expands its research agenda to further explore the environmental influences on people's occupations.

<19>
Accession Number
2009066568.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
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Title
Toward developing new occupational science measures: an example from dementia care research.
Source
Abbreviated Source
Abstract
The Activity in Context and Time (ACT) was developed as a quantitative, direct observational measure of environmental correlates of time-use and quality of life of people with dementia living in nursing homes or other long term care institutions. A variety of experiences and considerations influenced the decision to develop the ACT including: commitments honed through clinical practice in occupational therapy; research experiences with nonhuman primates; moral challenges of research with persons with dementia; and relevant scholarship in environmental psychology, gerontology, occupational therapy and science. To develop and refine the ACT such that it could meet modest criteria of validity and reliability, numerous theoretical and practical challenges also had to be addressed. Critique of the ACT suggests limitations and strengths of direct observational measures, as well as specific ways in which the ACT does and does not contribute to an integral holistic science of occupation. By describing the ongoing methodological journey of the ACT including its early influences, developmental challenges, strengths and limitations, and anticipated future refinements, it is hoped that this article might be of value to other researchers who are interested in developing new methodologies that embody and advance an occupational science perspective.

<20>
Accession Number
2009039548.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
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Title
A model of occupational presence.
Source
Abstract
This paper proposes that presence, a state of consciousness of "being there" exists through engagement in occupations. The development of presence is seen as a consequence of cognitive processes that play a mediating role on the sensory information experienced through the occupation. Factors such as predictability, dramatic involvement and level of interaction may be involved. The benefits derived from a sense of presence are thought to include motivation, satisfaction, self-efficacy and enjoyment. A conceptual model is proposed that helps to illustrate these concepts. The model may be useful for analyzing daily occupations. Examples drawn from research undertaken with older adults who were engaged in virtual occupations begin the validation process of this model. Testable hypotheses derived from the model are discussed in relation to how they will advance knowledge of occupation.

Accession Number
2009039543.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
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Title
Meaningfulness of occupations as an occupational-life-trajectory attractor.
Source
Abstract
According to Royeen (2003), chaos/complexity theory might be better suited than linear methods to provide a conceptual framework for the study of occupation and occupational behavior because of the complexity of these phenomena. The purpose of this paper is to present one way of conceptualizing human occupational life using some constructs from chaos/complexity theory. It is proposed that human occupational life might be understood as an occupational-life-trajectory consisting of a repertoire of occupations chosen and performed over time. An argument is made, using empirical evidence from a previous pilot study (Ikiugu & Rosso, 2004), that meaningfulness may be viewed as an attractor for this trajectory, with conditions that make individuals perceive occupations to be meaningful forming a basin of attraction (conditions structuring patterns of participation in occupations). Such a view of meaning-
fulness may be one way of understanding the nature, structure, and features of occupation.

<22>
Accession Number
2009039539.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
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Title
The meaning of everyday meals in living units for older people.
Source
Abbreviated Source
J OCCUP SCI. 2005 Jul; 12(2): 91-101. (64 ref)
Abstract
Even when frail older people become unable to live on their own and manage everyday activities, they can still experience a variety of meanings within meal-related activities that contribute to quality of life. This article reports research findings that focused on the meal, from preparation to cleaning up. Data were collected through participant observation and by interviewing residents in a residential living unit in Denmark, and analysed using a comparative, interpretive approach. Living units are a new way of organising nursing homes. In each unit, 6-8 elderly people stay in individual flats, adjacent to which is a shared dining room and kitchen. If the residents choose to, and are capable, they are involved in everyday activities of the unit and eat together with staff. This way of organising meals seems to influence most of the everyday life in the unit by shaping a homely place. It also enables a living community that acts in and enlivens everyday existence. Meals themselves also make it possible to be somebody and be yourself in ordinary life and to provide a place for valued occupations, things that give substance to everyday life. In sum, the study found that as an occupation, meals give time and space for daily life and seem to be the heart of life in the unit.

<23>
Accession Number
2009039532.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
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Title
Time use following a severe traumatic brain injury.
Source
Abbreviated Source
Abstract
Recent outcome studies have found that a significant number of people have limited opportunity for meaningful occupation following severe traumatic brain injury (TBI). The aim of this study was to compare the time use of 37 people more than three years post injury with time use in the general Australian population. This time use study was part of a broader research project, which examined community integration and factors that lead to successful community integration. The results of this study were that the TBI sample spent less time in employment related activities and more time on personal care than the general population. They also spent more time alone and less time with family. The TBI sample spent as much time in the community as their peers, however they were less involved in shared occupation. Although this group of people had received comprehensive rehabilitation services following their injury, they experienced decreased opportunities for meaningful occupation and changes in social contact several years post injury. Comparisons of the sample with people who are not employed suggest that unemployment is only one of the factors that contribute to the under-occupation of people with TBI. The time use data collected provides a window on lifestyle changes and indicates that severe TBI has a significant negative impact on people's level of participation and well-being.
Accession Number
2009022805.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
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Title
Occupational balance: what tips the scales for new students?
Source
Abstract
The open question, ‘What prevents you from reaching occupational balance?’, was posed within a questionnaire aimed at exploring the meanings of occupation, health and wellbeing with a cohort of first-year occupational therapy students during their initial few weeks at university. Their written responses to the question about occupational balance were analysed and are discussed in this paper. Not surprisingly, occupational balance appeared to be achieved by only a few and more by chance than design.
People, time and money factors were identified as the main impediments to achieving occupational balance, with psychological and emotional pressures being at the forefront. Interestingly, despite these barriers, the overall educational benefit of considering the occupational balance question in this way raised the students’ awareness of its relationship to health and wellbeing. This increased awareness might have longer-term health benefits, both personally and professionally, which would be worthy of further research.

Accession Number
2009022794.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
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Title
The relationship between engagement in occupations and pressure sore development in Saudi men with paraplegia.
Source
Abstract
Various research studies have explored the factors that predispose people with spinal cord injuries to pressure sore development. Two hundred risk factors have been associated with
pressure sore occurrence. One of the variables commonly reported to affect pressure sore occurrence is a decreased level of activity (Vidal and Sarrias 1991, Fuhrer et al. 1993). This concurs with the philosophy of occupational therapy that a reduction in activity can generate pathology (Miller et al. 1988).

This research study investigated whether decreased participation in occupational activities (work, leisure and activities of daily living) was related to pressure sore occurrence in paraplegic men. The sample was selected randomly from the occupational therapy discharge files of a rehabilitation facility in Saudi Arabia. The data were collected by means of a telephone questionnaire from a total of 58 men, over a 3-month period.

The study showed that there was a large increase in unemployment in paraplegic men following injury (from 10% to 59%) and, as might be expected, manual workers were more vulnerable than office workers. The study found no significant association between pressure sore occurrence and whether or not the individual was employed. However, it showed a statistically significant association between unemployment and pressure sores severe enough to lead to hospitalisation. The study also found a statistically significant association between individuals' independence in activities of daily living and the number of pressure sores that they had reported in the last 2 years.

These findings indicate the potential importance of clients remaining occupationally active for their wellbeing and the significant contribution that occupational therapists can make by enabling rehabilitation of occupational activities.

<27>

Accession Number
2009061053.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

Title
Influence of occupation and home environment on the wellbeing of European elders.

Source

Abbreviated Source

Abstract
ENABLE-AGE was a EU-funded project involving research teams in Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Sweden and the UK. A main aim was to study the relationship between home and healthy ageing for very old people living alone at home. In all, 1918 older people from the five EU countries were surveyed. This article addresses results from a sub-set of in-depth interviews, conducted with 80 octogenarians in Sweden and the UK. The impact of the home environments and patterns of occupational engagement on individual wellbeing is presented. Findings indicate that occupational pursuits are diverse, and not dictated by chronological age. Social activities outside the immediate home environment are particularly valued, as is easy access to favourite local venues. Additionally, being able to leave the home to pursue chosen activities is enjoyed and nurtured. House-bound elders find their occupational satisfaction increasingly dependent upon both their own ingenuity and the accessibility of the interior home.
Accession Number
2009021323.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

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Title
Cultivating wildness: three conservation volunteers' experiences of participation in the Green Gym scheme.

Source
British Journal of Occupational Therapy. 2005 Jun; 68(6): 244-52. (52 ref)

Abbreviated Source
BR J OCCUP THER. 2005 Jun; 68(6): 244-52. (52 ref)

Abstract
The Green Gym - a free scheme run by the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers - encourages people to become fitter and counter the negative impact of increasingly sedentary lifestyles through carrying out practical conservation tasks. This study aimed to identify what participation in one newly established Green Gym meant to three volunteers.

A qualitative research design was used owing to the small sample available - two unemployed adults and a part-time community worker - at the time that the research was undertaken. Data were collected through participant-observation over four sessions, semi-structured interviews and the participants' visual notebooks. An iterative process of data coding, display in concept maps and interpretation generated themes and subthemes.

In addition to improving fitness, the participants valued the scheme as a means of enhancing mental wellbeing, being stimulated by nature and enjoying social contact, and as a flexible way in which to attain a valued productive role. The findings suggest that Green Gyms can represent a form of mainstream volunteerism to which appropriate occupational therapy clients might be referred in the process of meeting a range of occupational needs. In particular, the flexibility and diversity of tasks at the Green Gym suggest that it has the potential to enable occupationally deprived individuals, including those who have experienced social exclusion through mental ill-health, to access a productive occupation in the community.

Accession Number
2009031997  NLM Unique Identifier: 15727043.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

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Title
Source
Abbreviated Source
CAN J OCCUP THER. 2005 Feb; 72(1): 5-12. (28 ref)
Abstract
BACKGROUND: The paper is based on a keynote address delivered at the 2004 CAOT Conference in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island Occupational therapists are widely associated with a medical model of health care in which recognition of how engagement in occupation contributes to health status is poorly understood. Occupational science as the study of people as occupational beings has the potential to increase such understanding. PURPOSE: This paper considers some aspects of the relationship between health and the occupations of older people to highlight avenues for change and the research required to support them. METHOD: The paper is structured around a simple verse of dialogue between a healthy old man and an occupational therapist. Explanation of the dialogue draws upon historical and current literature as well as occupational science research to provide a rationale for future practice based on broader concepts of occupation for health. RESULTS AND PRACTICE SUGGESTIONS: The dialogue promotes the need for discussion about health and about the health notion of Active Ageing. It highlights professional language as one impediment to change and suggests that research concerning occupation as it relates to population health is a primary requirement for the future of occupational therapy.

Accession Number
2009010289.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
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Title
What's cooking? Theory and practice in the kitchen.
Source
Abbreviated Source
BR J OCCUP THER. 2005 Feb; 68(2): 67-74. (37 ref)
Abstract
Occupational therapists are challenged to demonstrate how their practice is informed by evidence of effectiveness. In the absence of evidence from scientific investigation, theories are used to frame judgements about clinical situations. This paper explores how the process of adapting a kitchen can be informed by occupational theories, based on the first author's experiences as a social services occupational therapist. The kitchen is a familiar space in occupational therapy and forms a key environment for meeting nutritional and social needs in the domestic setting.

The process of altering a kitchen is used to illustrate concepts associated with occupation in everyday life. Issues arising from two kitchen adaptations are investigated using categories from the Canadian Model of Occupational Performance and the definition of therapeutic occupation (Nelson 1996). The limitations of applying theory to practice are explored, alongside
analysis of how theory enhances practice. Finally, a synthesis, of knowledge based on science and creative practice based on art, is proposed.

<31>

Accession Number
2009010191  NLM Unique Identifier: 15881047.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
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Title
Understanding the occupational deprivation of refugees: a case study from Kosovo.
Source
Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy. 2005 Apr; 72(2): 78-88. (45 ref)
Abbreviated Source
CAN J OCCUP THER. 2005 Apr; 72(2): 78-88. (45 ref)
Abstract
BACKGROUND: Occupational deprivation as a concept has been presented and discussed in the occupational therapy and occupational science literature for the past several years. The discussion to date, however, has been largely exploratory and theoretical in nature. PURPOSE: This article represents the author's attempt to further understandings of occupational deprivation as a lived experience through research undertaken with Kosovar refugees living in Australia. METHOD AND RESULT: The article focuses on the story of one of the participants of the study which is presented as a case study to illuminate aspects of occupational deprivation as a process occurring over time. The case study is interwoven with interpretive commentary, which serves to highlight key issues as to how occupational deprivation may be experienced by groups of people in different cultural, historic and societal contexts and how it may therefore be addressed by occupational therapists. PRACTICE IMPLICATIONS: The article concludes with reflections on future directions with respect to both further research and professional action. In particular, the focus of professional action is oriented to a population-based approach.

<32>

Accession Number
2009010153.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
Author
Wiseman JO. Davis JA. Polatajko HJ.
Title
Occupational development: towards an understanding of children's doing.
Source
Abbreviated Source
Abstract
Despite the extensive study of child development over a century, specific knowledge about how children's occupations develop over time is limited. To address this gap, an exploratory qualitative study was conducted with 12 in-depth, semi-structured interviews from six families: eight girls aged 6 to 12, and six parents. Two themes emerged: reasons for engagement and the process of establishment of children's occupations. The Process for Establishing Children's Occupations (PECO) is proposed as a preliminary model for understanding the process and influences on occupational development.

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2005106263.

Special Fields Contained
- Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

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Title
The effects of post-traumatic stress disorder on children's social skills and occupation of play.

Source

Abstract
From a review of the literature it appears that occupational therapists (OTs) have been less actively involved in the treatment of clients with eating disorders in the last 10 years. With the job market changing for OT, it is important to understand the factors influencing therapists' involvement in this area. One factor that may limit the number of therapists working with clients with eating disorders may be the limited understanding of and lack of referrals to OT by psychologists. This study investigates whether psychologists perceive that OTs provide beneficial treatments for clients with eating disorders and if they would refer eating disorder clients to OTs. This study also aims to identify if there are similar treatment models and techniques used by both OTs and psychologists in treating this population. Surveys were sent to 75 members of the New York State Psychological Association who had self-identified as treating eating disorders. An effective return rate of 44% was achieved. The results of this study show that psychologists currently use many of the same treatment modalities OTs use with people with eating disorders and view those techniques as beneficial for this population. They would refer to OT for all modalities except assertiveness training. The results also show that psychologists are not aware of OT's role with this population, and, thus, education about OT is needed.
Research concepts in clinical scholarship. Scholarship and practice: bridging the divide.

There is evidence that the growth theory and research about occupation produced by academics are not consistently translated into occupational therapy practice. Rather, practitioners often report finding such theory and research to be of limited relevance to and/or difficult to implement in their everyday work. Although many factors contribute to this academic-practice gap one important contributor is how knowledge is traditionally viewed and generated in academia. Changes in traditional views about academic knowledge and its relationship to practice both outside and within occupational therapy are discussed. Ways that occupational therapy scholarship can be more clearly grounded in everyday practice are examined drawing from experience with participatory research. Consideration is given to how researchers and practitioners might share power and have a more effective dialogue.

Regaining childhood: a case study.

A case study is used to describe the use of play as a therapeutic tool to mediate the effects of domestic violence on the development of self. The value of a collaborative approach by family and therapist, including the collection of qualitative data, demonstrates how external systems such as supervised access and the legal system may be used to support the relationship between occupation, well-being and health.
ECOTROS overview studies on occupation

Accession Number
2005079623.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

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Title
Experience of spirituality, mental illness and occupation: a life-sustaining phenomenon.

Source

Abstract
Background and Aim: This article provides an overview of a phenomenological investigation of spirituality with six people who have experienced mental illness. The study aimed to gain a greater understanding of the phenomenon of spirituality and its relationships to occupation and the experience of mental illness.

Methods and Results: Participants were interviewed and the interviews were audi-taped and transcribed verbatim. Findings emerged through multiple readings and gradually constructed meanings from the data. Spirituality was found to be: unique to each participant, a journey through life, vitally important to participants, manifested as 'spiritual occupations', the foundation of meaningful doing, important socially as well as individually, and was found to support participants in coping with mental illness. This article focuses on the 'meta', integrative theme of spirituality as life sustaining. It concludes with the notion that spirituality is essential to the participants and is a significant aspect of their occupational behaviour.

Conclusion: It is recommended that occupational therapists give themselves a 'licence' to discuss spirituality in practice and that they commit to learning more about how spirituality is a part of the lives of their clients.

Accession Number
2005077300.

Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.

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Title
Horsemastership part 1: therapeutic components and link to occupational therapy... including commentary by Candler C and Benda W.

Source

Abbreviated Source
INT J THER REHABIL. 2005 Feb; 12(2): 78-83. (29 ref)
Abstract
Since mythology, the horse has been referred to as a healer and a helper of humans. Yet, it is only within the past 50 years that the horse has truly been recognized as having therapeutic value. Horsemastership, a generic term defined as 'the care, maintenance and use of the horse in all pleasure and commercial activities', has potential to be used as a therapeutic medium. Indeed, horsemastership is successfully used as a therapeutic medium for young adults (16-25 year olds) with additional needs at the Fortune Centre of Riding Therapy, a residential specialist college based in the New Forest. Despite this, however, the existing literature to support this specialist area is minimal.

The first part of this article takes a comprehensive view of horsemastership by discussing all the distinct aspects that can be used as a treatment medium for people with additional needs. The skills and knowledge of the occupational therapist are also applied to highlight the potential involvement and role that the occupational therapy profession has to offer in this field.

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2005076895  NLM Unique Identifier: 15707125.
Special Fields Contained
Fields available in this record: abstract, cited references.
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Title
Self-care at school: perceptions of 6-year-old children.
Source
American Journal of Occupational Therapy. 2005 Jan-Feb; 59(1): 67-77. (63 ref)
Abbreviated Source
AM J OCCUP THER. 2005 Jan-Feb; 59(1): 67-77. (63 ref)
Abstract
Occupational therapists who work with young children routinely evaluate self-care and consider it an important domain of practice. Little is known about what children perceive is important self-care or what they experience as self-care within a school context. Without knowledge about children's perspectives of self-care, occupational therapists cannot know whether or not they are targeting areas that are central to children's needs. The purpose of this naturalistic study was to explore 6-year-old children's perceptions of self-care in their school day. Participant observation and group interviewing were used to elicit descriptive information from 24 Grade One children, attending an elementary school located in Sydney, Australia. A fishing game, drawing activity, and excerpts from a videotape of their day at school were used as stimuli to explore how the children described and attributed meaning to their self-care occupations. Findings showed that children described self-care at school two ways. First, they named specific self-care tasks that mirrored adult views of self-care and represented culturally shared views of the concept of self-care across ages. Second, children described highly individual views about self-care that were derived from their own experience of doing self-care at school. These views seemed to be based on their personal perceptions of salient factors in operation at the time of self-care performance such as social and physical contexts, perceived skill, and expectations of others. The findings suggest that occupational therapy assessment and intervention for self-care include sensitivity to experiential differences be-
 tween adult views of self-care and those of children. This sensitivity should include an at-
tempt to understand children's experiences of self-care in specific contexts such as school.