



THE AMERICAN
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
FOUNDATION

Research Resources

A monthly newsletter of the

AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health

May 2012

Dear Colleagues,

Management of chronic diseases is predicted to be an important challenge for U.S. health care in the coming years. Arthritis (e.g., rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, juvenile arthritis) is among the more painful and disabling chronic conditions and often results in activity and participation restrictions. The Arthritis Foundation reports that over 50 million adults and children in the United States have been diagnosed with some type of arthritis.

Occupational therapists offer vital interventions to help people with arthritis remain active and participate fully in their lives. Various approaches are used to manage pain, prevent disability, and promote engagement in everyday activities.

To help mark May as Arthritis Awareness Month, this month *Research Resources* features publications in the area of arthritis. A growing literature in the field documents the efficacy of occupational therapy interventions and identifies opportunities for future study. We invite you to survey the sample assembled by our staff in the Wilma L. West Library.

As always, we welcome your ideas on ways we can improve this monthly newsletter, and we thank you for your support of AOTF.

Sincerely yours,

Julie D. Bass, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA
Associate Director
Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health

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Wilma L. West Library Resource Notes

Occupational therapy intervention for people with various types of arthritis

As early as 1925 (Taylor) and as recently as 2012 (Nicklasson & Jonsson), occupational therapy practitioners have reported on their interventions for people living with a type of arthritis. There are over four hundred citations in OT SEARCH related to this topic, and many additional ones in MEDLINE/PubMed published in medical journals not

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[OT: History in Focus](#)

Watch this space for AOTF Events at the AOTA Annual Conference, San Diego, April 25-28, 2013

Keep your eye out news about Foundation Friday -
- Breakfast with a Scholar,
Research Colloquium,
and our Gala.

Support AOTF

The American Occupational Therapy Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting our profession today and for the future. Gifts to AOTF help us continue to make a real difference for so many people in our profession through:

- * Scholarships
- * Research support and publications including *Research Resources* and *OTJR*
- * Development and recognition of leadership * Education and maintaining the largest collection of occupational therapy resources in the country. Learn more at www.aotf.org or [Donate Now](#).

covered by OT SEARCH. For instance, the 2009 article in *Arthritis and Rheumatism* that ". . . describe[s] the prevalence of computer use problems experienced by a sample of people with arthritis, and [determines] the differences in the magnitude of these problems among people with rheumatoid arthritis (RA), osteoarthritis (OA), and fibromyalgia (FM)" (Baker, et al., p. 614). A second such article addresses access to and perceived need for physical and occupational therapy in chronic arthritis (Feldman, et al., 2010). In a 2010 article in *Musculoskeletal Care*, Niedermann and colleagues report on a study of the benefits and barriers to joint protection.

AOTF, of course, is particularly interested in studies addressing the participation of individuals in their preferred activities and occupations. Four such studies were reported recently in *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*. Alsaker and Josephsson (2010) address the everyday activities of women with chronic rheumatic diseases; while, Forhan and Backman (2010) report on occupational balance in adults with rheumatoid arthritis. Rest and sleep as occupations were the topic of an earlier *Research Resource*. Gibbs and Klinger (2011) studied the meaningful occupation of rest in women with hip and knee osteoarthritis. Lastly, Smith, et al, through narrative inquiry, explored the experience of being a mother with eight mothers who had inflammatory arthritis (2011). There are additional articles below addressing participation in activities and occupations, (Reinseth, et al., 2011, Vrkljan, et al., 2010 and Nicklasson & Jonsson, 2012).

To finish this small sample of citations on this month's topic, it is necessary to add a few recent articles addressing specific interventions. They include an article on home exercises for children living with juvenile idiopathic arthritis (de Monte, et al., 2009) and another on the use of mindfulness training for people with rheumatic diseases (Hawtin & Sullivan, 2011). Intervention for hand involvement is discussed by Jack & Estes (2010), by Kjekken (2011) and by Valdes & Marik (2010). Murphy, et al. report on the effects of a tailored activity pacing intervention on pain and fatigue for adults with osteoarthritis (2010).

Alsaker, S & Josephsson, S. (2010). [Occupation and meaning: narrative in everyday activities of women with chronic rheumatic conditions](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 30, 58-67.

Baker, NA, Rogers, JC, Rubinstein, EN, Allaire, SH & Wasko, MC. (2009 May 15). [Problems experienced by people with arthritis when using a computer](#). *Arthritis and Rheumatism*, 61, 614-622.

de Monte, R, Rodger, S, Jones, F & Broderick, S. (2009). [Living with juvenile idiopathic arthritis: children's experiences of participating in home exercise programmes](#). *The British Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 72, 357-365.

Feldman DE, Bernatsky S, Lévesque JF, Van MT, Houde M, April KT. (2010). [Access and perceived need for physical and occupational](#)

**OTJR: Occupation,
Participation and
Health**
Spring 2012

OTJR: *Occupation, Participation and Health*, published quarterly by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation, Inc., offers original research articles of professional interest to the practicing occupational therapist with a focus on occupation and fostering interdisciplinary research. Visit: [OTJR Online](#).

Editorial

[A Legacy and a Look to the Future](#)

Kathleen Matuska, PhD,
OTR/L, FAOTA

Feature Articles

[Dealing With Real-Life Challenges: Outcome of a Home-Based Occupational Therapy Intervention for People With Severe Psychiatric Disability](#)

Maria Lindström, MSc,
OTR; Gun-Marie Hariz,
PhD, OTR; Birgitta
Bernspång, PhD, OTR

[Occupational Performance Problems in 85-Year-Old Women and Men in Sweden](#)

Anette Källdalen, BScOT;
Jan Marcusson, MD, PhD;
Katarina Nägga, MD,
PhD; Ewa Wressle,
MScOT

[Collective Occupations Among Filipina Migrant Workers: Bridging](#)

[therapy in chronic arthritis](#). *Disability and Rehabilitation*, 32, 1827-1832.

Forhan, M & Backman, C. (2010). [Exploring occupational balance in adults with rheumatoid arthritis](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 30, 133-141. (Commentary and author's response, V.30. No. 3, 142.)

Gibbs, LB & Klinger, L. (2011). [Rest is a meaningful occupation for women with hip and knee osteoarthritis](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 31, 143-150.

Hawtin, H & Sullivan, C. (2011). [Experiences of mindfulness training in living with rheumatic disease: an interpretative phenomenological analysis](#). *The British Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 74, 137-142.

Jack, J & Estes, RI. (2010). [Documenting progress: hand therapy treatment shift from biomechanical to occupational adaptation](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 64, 82-87.

Kjeken, I. (2011). [Occupational therapy-based and evidence-supported recommendations for assessment and exercises in hand osteoarthritis](#). *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 18, 265-281.

Murphy, SL, Lyden, AK, Smith, DM, Dong, Q & Koliba, JF. (2010). [Effects of a tailored activity pacing intervention on pain and fatigue for adults with osteoarthritis](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 64, 869-876.

Nicklasson, M & Jonsson, H. (2012). [Experience of participation as described by people with hand deformity caused by rheumatic disease](#). *The British Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 75, 29-35.

Niedermann K, Hammond A, Forster A, de Bie R. (2010). [Perceived benefits and barriers to joint protection among people with rheumatoid arthritis and occupational therapists. A mixed methods study](#). *Musculoskeletal Care*, 8, 143-56.

Reinseth, L, Uhlig, T, Kjeken, I, Koksvik, HS, Skomsvoll, JF & Espnes, GA. (2011). [Performance in leisure-time physical activities and self-efficacy in females with rheumatoid arthritis](#). *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 18, 210-218.

Smith, LDF, Suto, M, Chalmers, A & Backman, CL. (2011). [Belief in doing and knowledge in being mothers with arthritis](#). *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, 31, 40-48.

Taylor, M. (1925). Occupational therapy for chronic arthritic patients. *Occupational Therapy and Rehabilitation*, 4, 241-244.

[Disrupted Identities](#)

Terry Peralta-Catipon,
PhD, OTR/L

[Playground Behaviors of Children With and Without Sensory Processing Disorders](#)

Joanna Cosbey, PhD,
OTR/L; Susan S.
Johnston, PhD, CCC-
SLP; M. Louise Dunn;
Mari Bauman, ScD,
OTR/L

[Goal-Directed Actions and Early Experience With Crawling](#)

Anne H. Zachry, PhD,
OTR/L; Anita Witt Mitchell,
MS, OTR

Funding Opportunities

AOTF Announces Fellowship Funding for the Summer Research Institute on Behavioral Intervention (June 14-16, 2012, Baltimore, Maryland)

AOTF is pleased to offer up to three fellowships to qualified occupational therapy scientists whose applications have been approved for attendance at this institute (see description under Conference Announcements). These \$1,250 fellowships will partially underwrite the expenses of attendance at the workshop. Applicants who have been accepted into the Institute should send an email to the Foundation at hross@aotf.org with 'Hopkins Aging Institute Fellowship' in the subject

Valdes, K & Marik, T. (2010). [A systematic review of conservative interventions for osteoarthritis of the hand](#). *Journal of Hand Therapy*, 23, 334-351, Quiz, 352

Vrkljan, BH, Cranney, A, Worswick, J, O'Donnell, S, Li, LC, Gâelinas, I, Byszewski, A, Man-Son-Hing, M & Marshall, S. (2010). [Supporting safe driving with arthritis: developing a driving toolkit for clinical practice and consumer use](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 64, 259-267.

Conference Announcements

Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing Summer Research Institute on Developing Behavioral Intervention Research, Center for Innovative Care in Aging (June 14-16, 2012, Baltimore)

This Summer Research Institute is designed to help investigators: (1) develop testable interventions that have potential to be implemented in practice environments if proven effective, and (2) advance appropriate trial designs. For more information or to request notification of availability of the application, please contact: [Laura N. Gitlin](#), Director, Center for Innovative Care in Aging, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing.

[2012 AOTA Specialty Conference - Advanced Practice in Traumatic Injuries & PTSD: Lessons for Military, VA, & Civilian Practitioners \(September 7-8, 2012, San Antonio, Texas\)](#)

[2012 AOTA/NBCOT National Student Conclave - Students only\(November 9-10, 2012, Columbus, Ohio\)](#)

[2012 AOTA Specialty Conference - Adults with Stroke \(November 30 - December 1, 2012, Baltimore, Maryland\)](#)

[4th Annual Health Literacy Research Conference \(October 22-23, 2012, Bethesda, Maryland\)](#)

The conference aim is to attract a full range of investigators engaged in health literacy research including those involved in a broad array of public health, health services, epidemiology, translational, and interventional research activities. Call for abstracts deadline -- **July 13, 2012**.

Online Resources

[AOTA Virtual Pediatric Chat on OT's Role in Trauma, May 14, 2012, 2:00 pm -- 3:00 pm EST.](#)

[Keynote Address by Carolyn M. Clancy, MD, Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \(AHRQ\)](#)

The keynote address (

line. AOTF will then forward an application form to return and complete. Applicants will be notified within two weeks of receipt of their completed application.

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Direction of Comparative Effectiveness Research in the United States and the Role of AHRQ) presented by Dr. Clancy at the China Outcomes Research & Evidence-Based Medicine Summit Shanghai, China (Via Videoconference), March 29, 2012 is now available online.

[Boston University Center for ENhancing ACTivity and Participation Among Persons with Arthritis' Active Living \(ENACT\) with Arthritis Podcast Series](#)

This podcast series provides evidence-based information to help people living with arthritis and other rheumatic conditions stay active. ENACT's mission is to enhance the lives of people with arthritis and other rheumatic conditions such as lupus, fibromyalgia and scleroderma through research, training and community-based activities. ENACT strives to change the paradigm for arthritis research and intervention from a focus on disease and limitation to a focus that emphasizes active living and participation.

[For the Public's Health: Investing in a Healthier Future -- Released: April 10, 2012](#)

In 2009, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) formed a committee to consider three topics related to population health: data and measurement, law and policy, and funding. In this final report, the IOM assesses both the sources

and adequacy of current government public health funding and identifies approaches to building a sustainable and sufficient public health presence going forward, while recognizing the importance of the other actors in the health system, including clinical care, governmental public health, and others. In order for health outcomes to improve in the U.S., we will need to transform the way the nation invests in health to pay more attention to population-based prevention efforts; remedy the dysfunctional manner in which public health funding is allocated, structured and used; and ensure stable funding for public health departments. Read the report online for free.

Education Resources

[Picky Eaters vs. Problem Feeders: The S.O.S. Approach to Feeding \(June 20-23, 2012, Denver, Colorado and November 29-December 2, 2012, Raleigh, North Carolina\)](#)

The Sequential Oral Sensory (S.O.S) Approach to Feeding integrates postural, sensory, motor, behavioral/ learning, medical and nutritional factors to comprehensively evaluate and manage children with feeding/growth problems. S.O.S. Basic 3-day program and S.O.S. Advanced workshop offered.

Occupational Therapy: History in Focus

Evidence-based practice in OT may have begun at Hospital 117 in 1918



OT Reconstruction Aides in a curative workshop established at an AEF hospital in France, 1918. Three kinds of therapy were offered, including craft diversions and those aimed at developing work related skills. Aides were civilians paid by the Army, earned \$60 per month while deployed overseas, and had their uniforms provided by the Red Cross. They established their own workshops at the hospitals, often having to clean vacant barrack rooms. Image Credit: History of Medicine Collection, National Library of Medicine, NIH.

As ironic as it sounds, America's delayed entry into World War I created a fortuitous opportunity for occupational therapy. Despite strong sentiments by the population against involvement in the war, and his own pacifism, President Woodrow Wilson made the decision to ask Congress to declare war on April 2, 1917. This was only a few weeks after the founding of the Society for the Promotion of Occupational Therapy in Clifton Springs, NY.

The country's mobilization included conscription of 4 million men, of which two million eventually went to France as part of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) a year later. Meanwhile the Surgeon General was asked to mobilize the medical corps and prepare for the care and reconstruction (rehabilitation) of wounded soldiers. Physical and occupational therapists, who were labeled "reconstruction aides" were seen as a vital part of the effort and 1,685 were employed during the 18 months from their deployment in 1918 until the armistice in 1919. The first experimental group was deployed at Base 117 in LaFauche, France not far from the front lines.

The success of the contingent of OTs sent to Base 117 was documented in a report to the surgeon general detailing the number and types of casualties seen there and the proportion returned to duty. Although this "research" was primitive (since there was no way to objectively demonstrate that the men's recovery was specifically due to their participation in the curative workshop set up by the OT reconstruction aides), the report was sufficient to convince General Pershing to deploy more occupational therapists. This led to a decision to include OTs among the several stateside hospitals set up to "Reconstruct" wounded soldiers after the war's end.

AOTF is pleased to begin a new historical feature, in which we recollect, through photos and reports, the events and people that have shaped and defined the profession during its distinguished history.

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For more information about the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and its Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health see our web site: www.aotf.org.