



THE AMERICAN  
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
FOUNDATION

November 2012

Research Resources



## With Thankfulness to Research Resources Colleagues:

There is no escape - part of our human experience will include life-threatening illnesses and dying. Our needs during these times will be to maintain dignity, know support, feel comfort, find meaning, make plans, and control the things we fear most. The people we love share these experiences with us and they, too, have needs. As I reflect on my family's most difficult situations, I am grateful for the care provided by health professionals, who helped us achieve quality of life and well-being. This area of practice is known as palliative care.

The World Health Organization ([WHO](#)) defines [palliative care](#) as "an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problem associated with life-threatening illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual." This definition also describes specific aspects of palliative care that may be addressed by inter-professional teams who are working with individuals and their families. Several components are particularly relevant to occupational therapy, including supports for individuals and their families to live as actively as possible, integrate psychological and spiritual care, have optimal quality of life, and experience relief from pain and other symptoms that diminish well-being.

The components of palliative care have been described in a number of reports. Recent [Clinical Practice Guidelines for Quality Palliative Care](#) emphasize the importance of having inter-professional teams to address eight domains: structure and processes, physical, psychological/psychiatric, social, spiritual/religious/existential, cultural,

## In This Issue

[Palliative Care](#)

[OT: History in Focus](#)

[Dates to Remember](#)

[Support AOTF](#)

[OTJR](#)

[AOTF Events at the AOTA  
Conference](#)

[Conference Announcements](#)

[Education Opportunities](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

## Dates to Remember

**PTE Events at the AOTA/NBCOT  
Student Conclave,**

Hyatt Regency Columbus Hotel, Columbus, Ohio. All PTE events will be held on Friday, November 9, 2012:

\* 9 am-10:30 am Annual Business Meeting. PTE Chapters should have received their Delegates Packet. Chapters RSVP to [pte@aotf.org](mailto:pte@aotf.org). All PTE members are welcome to observe the meeting.

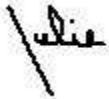
\* 10:30 am-12 pm Doctoral Panel

imminently dying, and ethical/legal aspects of care.

Occupational therapy is identified as one of the professions that is integral to this specialized, interdisciplinary care. Palliative care is a recommended service for many medical diagnoses but is especially notable in cancer programs. The [National Cancer Institute](#) at the National Institutes of Health describes evidence-based palliative care for physical, emotional and coping, practical, and spiritual needs and emphasizes the importance of additional research on behavioral and psychological support, education, and training.

Occupational therapy has many opportunities to contribute to palliative care research and programs. Our knowledge of occupations, person factors, and the environment may improve quality of life and well-being for individuals and their families who receive palliative care. This month, *Research Resources* features publications that support occupational therapy interventions related to palliative care 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.

Warm regards,



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

## Resources Notes:

### Participation in occupations and daily activities by persons receiving palliative care

Like the World Health Organization (as discussed in the letter from Dr. Bass above), the [American Occupational Therapy Association \(AOTA\)](#) addresses palliative care for persons suffering chronic, life-threatening or terminal illnesses through an official statement (AOTA, 2011) and a Fact Sheet (Campbell & Munoz, 2008). Both documents discuss the significance of valued everyday activities and of meaningful occupations to people across the life span and in varying stages of health. In their study, Lala and Kinsella ". . . propose that occupation is a basic human need across the lifespan [and] examine the embodied nature of occupation at end of life from the perspectives of Canadians 60 years of age or older who are diagnosed with a terminal illness" (2011, p. 246). La Cour, Josephsson, & Luborsky (2005) concern themselves with why and how elderly persons dealing with life-threatening illness engage in creative activities.

[Read more.](#)

## OT: History in Focus

### Clifford Beers, Adolf Meyer, and the Mental Hygiene Movement

Discussion. Hear from OTs who have taken a variety of paths to obtain a doctorate and utilize this degree in several different areas of practice. Open to all PTE members.

\* 5:30 pm-6:30 pm AOTA/NBCOT Mock Interviews and Resume Critiques. The PTE Executive Board Members will be serving as mock interviewers and résumé critics at this AOTA/NBCOT session. Pre-register for this event when you register for Conclave, and bring your résumé to receive feedback on it.

For information contact PTE National Coordinator [Cara Archer](#).

### Scholarship deadline --

November 15.

## 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 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](http://www.aotf.org) or [Donate Now](#).

## OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health: Fall 2012

*OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health*, published quarterly by the American Occupational Therapy Foundation, Inc.,



Alfred Meyer

Practitioners in mental health are familiar with the story of Clifford Beers, and his 1908 bestselling book describing inhumane care during his hospitalization for mental illness called *A Mind That Found Itself*. The book was a best seller and set in play a public outcry that led to reforms and an organized and important social movement that flourished between 1910 and 1960 called the Mental Hygiene Movement. The mental hygiene movement can be linked to programs in child development, guidance centers, family studies, and community mental approaches.

Although it was Clifford Beers' personal story that captured the initial attention of the public and set the stage for reform, it was Beers' association with Adolf Meyer that most influenced the success of the movement itself and its important ideas related to community-based prevention services. In fact, Beers asked Meyer to review the manuscript for the book prior to its publication, and later wrote to Meyer: "I want you to know that I have valued you as an adviser more than any other person because of your Gibraltar-like qualities." [Beers correspondence to Meyer, April 1, 1909].



Clifford Beers

[Read more](#)

## AOTF on Facebook

**THE AOTF Facebook page seeks to provide news of a more personal or timely nature tailored for the OT community.**

What you missed on Facebook in October:

[An article from the BBC](#) asking if creativity is linked to mental illness.

[A NY Times article](#) on the possible reasons for longevity including doing what you love.

[Link to a TED lecture](#) on what it feels like to have a stroke by a neuroanatomist..

Like us on Facebook 

## Join Our Mailing List!

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

[Family and Friends: A Recipe for Well-being](#)

Kathleen Matuska, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

### Feature Articles

[Perceived Participation and Health-Related Quality of Life in 85 Year Olds in Sweden](#)

Kristina Lantz, BScOT; Jan Marcusson, MD; Ewa Wressle, MScOT

[Successful Aging in Older Adults with Disability](#)

John L. Liu, MS, OTR/L; Pamela K. Richardson, PhD, OTR/L

[Validity of the Health Enhancement Lifestyle Profile-Screener \(HELP-Screener\)](#)

Jengliang Eric Hwang, PhD, OTR/L

[Health-Related Quality of Life in Children With Developmental Coordination Disorder and Their Parents](#)

Yee-Pay Wuang, PhD, OTR; Chih-Chung Wang, MS, OTR; Mao-Hsiung Huang, MD, PhD

[The Particularities of Engagement: Intersubjectivity in Occupational Therapy Practice](#)

Mary C. Lawlor, ScD, OTR/L, FAOTA

[Parenting Stress and Sensory Processing: Children With Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders](#)

Tracy Jirikowic, PhD, OTR/L; Heather Carmichael Olson, PhD; Susan Astley, PhD

AOTF Events at  
AOTA

## Conference, San Diego, April 25-28, 2013

Watch this space for information on Breakfast with a Scholar, Research Colloquium and other AOTF sponsored events.

## Conference Announcements

### **AUCD 2012: Innovating Today, Shaping Tomorrow (December 2-5, 2012, Washington, DC)**

The 2012 Association of University Centers on Disabilities Conference is a unique forum to share innovations and promising practices that shape the lives of people with disabilities and their families through research, policy, education, and service.

### **6th Australasian Occupational Science Symposium (December 6-7, 2012, Canberra, Australia)**

Internationally renowned speakers will address issues related to active living, social inclusion and life course perspectives with the theme of Occupation for Population Health.

### **Social Perspectives of Disability and Our Roles: How to Integrate Disabled in the Process of Social Change (January 24-25, 2013, Singapore)**

Organized by Global Integrated REsearch and Development Center - Canada, this seminar will widen the participants' knowledge and understanding of the issues and challenges of the disabled and solutions to them as well. The seminar will be beneficial for those who are working in the field of the disabled and their causes. Paper submission deadline: **January 1, 2013**.

### **29th Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity Conference (April 29-30, 2013, Honolulu, Hawaii)**

The conference theme, Being in Community, embraces the ideals of all people living together harmoniously and happily in a barrier-free world without fear of exclusion from social, economic or political life. Submission deadline is **January 7, 2013**.

### **International Stroke Conference (February 6-8, 2013, Honolulu, Hawaii)**

This conference emphasizes basic, clinical and translational sciences as they evolve toward a more complete understanding of stroke pathophysiology with the overall goal of developing more effective prevention and treatment.

## Education Opportunities

### **Training in Grantsmanship for Rehabilitation Research (TIGRR) (January 15-19, 2013, Chapel Hill, North Carolina)**

TIGRR, (previously known as Enhancing Rehabilitation Research in the South (ERRIS), seeks to mentor junior and mid-level faculty towards NIH or NIDRR level funding. The format is a 4-1/2 day workshop providing mentoring in grant writing, clinical trial design, biostatistics, informatics, collaboration, grantsmanship, budgeting, and career development through lectures and individual consultation.

## Online Resources

### **Closing the Quality Gap Series: Quality Improvement Measurement of Outcomes for People With Disabilities**

This final research review examines how health care outcomes have been assessed for people with disabilities. The report seeks to improve shared understanding among a broad audience of researchers, clinicians, and policymakers with varied exposure to disability outcomes or quality improvement research. National Academies Press 2012. Can be read online for free

### **Program Evaluation Guide – DCoE**

Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) recently developed and released this step-by-step manual for program leaders to prepare and conduct program evaluations.

### **Blueprint for the Future: Framing the Issues of Women in Science in a Global Context: Summary of a Workshop**

In April 2011, a committee overseen by the National Academies' standing Committee on Women in Science, Engineering, and Medicine (CWSEM) convened a workshop limited to women's participation in three scientific disciplines: chemistry, computer science, mathematics, and statistics. . Examination of these disciplines can be considered a first foray into collecting and analyzing information that can be replicated in other fields. National Academies Press 2012. This report can be read online for free.

### **Using Science as Evidence in Public Policy**

This report investigates why scientific evidence is important to policy making and argues that an extensive body of research on knowledge utilization has not led to any widely accepted explanation of what it means to use science in public policy. National Academies Press 2012. Can be read online for free.

### **Webinar: Using Computers to Assist with Cognitive Rehabilitation Wednesday, November 14, 2012, 3 p.m. ET**

This webinar will offer an overview of the best practices in cognitive rehabilitation, and how computer-based training programs can help cognitive recovery after brain injury.

## **About Us**

AOTF is a 501c3 dedicated to the advancement of research, education, and public awareness of occupational therapy so that all people may participate fully in life regardless of their physical, social, mental, or developmental circumstances.

AOTF is concerned about privacy and will only send *Research Resources* to those individuals who wish to receive it. If you no longer wish to receive *Research Resources*, or if you feel that you received this newsletter in error, please use the SafeUnsubscribe link at the bottom of this email. AOTF does not sell email addresses to other parties.

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](http://www.aotf.org).

## **Resources Notes continued**

Although occupational therapy practitioners and other health professionals seem to recognize that individuals with life-threatening or end-of-life illness value and benefit from engagement in activities of daily living and meaningful occupations, attention to providing opportunities for such engagement is not always the reality (Keesing & Rosenwax, 2011 and Jeyasingam, Agar, Soares, Plummer, & Currow, 2008).

Two interesting papers looked at this topic in hospice settings. Lyons, Orozovic, Davis and Newman use ". . . a doing-being-becoming framework to explore the place of occupation in human lives threatened by illness," (2002, p.285). In their 2004 paper, Pizzi and Briggs look at how occupational and physical therapists facilitate bringing meaning, quality of life and well-being to hospice clients. Of course, occupational therapy practitioners must be prepared to work in this area of practice. Meredith (2010) looks at the preparation of undergraduate students to practice in the palliative care arena. Although the study takes place in Australia, the reader is sure to glean some helpful information.

Finally, what is the experience of occupational therapists working in palliative care? Read Prochnau, Liu, and Boman, J. (2003) to begin to look at this aspect of practice in palliative care.

American Occupational Therapy Association, Burkhardt, A., Ivy, M., Kannenberg, K. R., Low, J. F., Marc-



Aurele, J. & Youngstrom, M. J. (2011). [The role of occupational therapy in end-of-life care](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 65, (Suppl), S66-S75.

Campbell, C. & Munoz, L.A. (2008). [AOTA Fact Sheet The role of occupational therapy in palliative care](#).

Jeyasingam, L., Agar, M., Soares, M., Plummer, J., & Currow, D. (2008). [A prospective study of unmet activity of daily living needs in palliative care patients](#). *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal*, 55, (4), 266-272.

Keesing, S. & Rosenwax, L. (2011). [Is occupation missing from occupational therapy in palliative care?](#) *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal*, 58, (5), 329-336.

la Cour, K., Josephsson, S. & Luborsky, M. (2005). [Creating connections to life during life-threatening illness: creative activity experienced by elderly people and occupational therapists](#). *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 12, (3), 98-109.

Lala, A. P. & Kinsella, E. A. (2011). [A phenomenological inquiry into the embodied nature of occupation at end of life](#). *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 78, (4), 246-254.

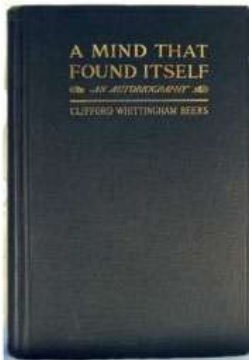
Lyons, M., Orozovic, N., Davis, J. & Newman, J. (2002). [Doing-being-becoming: Occupational experiences of persons with life-threatening illnesses](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 56, (3), 285-295.

Meredith, P. J. (2010). Has undergraduate education prepared occupational therapy students for possible practice in palliative care? *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal*, 57, (4), 224-232.

Pizzi, M.A. & Briggs, R. (2004). [Occupational and physical therapy in hospice: the facilitation of meaning, quality of life, and well-being](#). *Topics in Geriatric Rehabilitation*, 20, (2), 120-130.

Prochnau, C., Liu, L. & Boman, J. (2003). [Personal-professional connections in palliative care occupational therapy](#). *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 57, (2), 196-204.

## History Continued



*A Mind that Found Itself* is now in the public domain and can be found [here](#).

Later, it was Meyer himself who suggested the name "Mental Hygiene" for the advocacy movement Beers was intent on organizing to advocate for reforms. Meyer's was interested in prevention more than advocacy, based on his "biopsychological" theory of mental illness that viewed psychiatric illnesses as problems of adaptation, explained by environmental demands that overwhelmed a person's abilities to cope. Although Meyer's ideal of an organized, district by district approach to making prevention and treatment resources available to the entire population was never realized, it is very conceivable that his ideas for mental hygiene set the stage for today's community mental health services as well as legislation that led to the well-established role of occupational therapists in school systems and in pediatric clinics and the more widespread use of developmental therapies.

Photo credits: Wilma L. West Library, the American Occupational Therapy Foundation and the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. Used with permission.

AOTF is pleased to present OT: History in Focus, recollections of, through photos and reports, events and people that have shaped and defined the profession during its distinguished history.