



CAOT - ACE

Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
Association canadienne des ergothérapeutes

Easy Choice: Practice Bundle

Assistive Technology

This webinar bundle includes the following 5 On-Demand Practice Evidence Webinars:

There's an app for that? Occupational therapy in a new era of mobile technologies

Presented by Liliana Alvarez & Mike Ravenek on June 5, 2018

Occupational therapists interact with clients that are seeking to supplement, complement, or integrate apps into their rehabilitation process and daily lives. In addition, practitioners themselves are seeking to maximize the opportunities for their clients with the use of apps. However, with nearly 3 million apps hitting the smartphones' stores as of 2017, how can occupational therapists determine the quality and appropriateness of apps for clinical practice? This webinar will provide practitioners with detailed considerations that can be used by occupational therapists with clients to evaluate, and make decisions related to the selection of apps for practice.

After watching this webinar, you will be able to:

1. Appraise the quality of 'apps' in the context of clinical practice.
2. Assess the appropriateness of 'apps' as assistive, rehabilitation, and/or self-management technologies.
3. Integrate considerations regarding occupational justice, equity and access in their appraisal of 'apps' for clinical practice.

Technology for older adults with age-related vision loss (ARVL): What do occupational therapists need to know?

Presented by Colleen McGrath & Julia Foster on November 28, 2017

Older adults constitute the fastest growing segment of the population with age-related vision loss (ARVL), including macular degeneration, glaucoma, and diabetic retinopathy (Watson, 2001). Despite its overwhelming presence, ARVL is under-treated with older adults commonly waiting between five and seven years after diagnosis before accessing low-vision rehabilitation services, including assistive technology. This webinar will engage occupational therapists in understanding the variety of factors that influence an older adults' decision-making process regarding the acquisition of low vision devices as well as introduce occupational therapists to some of the technologies that may help support the occupational engagement of older adults with low vision.

After watching this webinar, you will be able to:

1. Define age-related vision loss and identify some of the associated occupational challenges.
2. Identify technologies available to support the occupational engagement of older adults with age-related vision loss.
3. Apply your new knowledge/understanding to a relevant case study.

Impact of assistive technology with older adults and their family caregivers: What we know and avenues to explore

Presented by Louise Demers & Michelle Plante on January 31, 2017

Family caregivers of community-dwelling older adults often report high levels of stress and burden. With the provision of assistive technology, occupational therapists working in home care help older adults cope with daily tasks and reduce the need for assistance. However, the impact of assistive technology use on family caregivers has rarely been a central concern. This webinar will: i) describe a 5-step process for a tailored assistive technology plan with an older adult and his or her family caregiver; ii) report study results following the implementation of an approach involving family caregivers during the provision of assistive technology; iii) discuss clinical implications and future avenues to advance our understanding of the involvement of family caregivers when providing an older adult with assistive technology.

After watching this webinar, you will be able to:

1. Be able to identify five steps of a home-based intervention that explicitly acknowledges the role of family caregivers in assistive technology provision.
2. Understand the effects of an assistive technology intervention on family caregivers
3. Identify practice considerations when involving family caregivers in assistive technology provision.

Occupational therapy in seniors' care: Applications of new technologies

Presented by Rosalie Wang on January 24, 2017

This webinar will examine through several use cases, new technologies that are applicable to occupational therapists working with seniors living in diverse settings. Some of these technologies include environmental sensors and controls, mobile applications and robots that can contribute to assessment and evaluation of occupation, support increased capacity to perform occupations, or enable occupational engagement and performance. Evidence supporting these interventions will be explored and participants will also learn about ways in which occupational therapists may become involved in designing and evaluating these technologies.

After watching this webinar, you will:

1. Identify at least 3 types of technologies that will be relevant to their practice working with seniors.
2. Discuss some of the evidence (or lack of evidence) to support these interventions.

3. Define at least 3 ways in which therapists can become involved in developing these interventions.

Mobile Technologies as Cognitive-Behavioral Aids: Devices, Apps and Strategies

Presented by Tony Gentry, PhD OTR/L on March 17, 2015

Smartphones, personal digital assistants, and tablets can be powerful assistive technologies for cognition when incorporated into an occupational therapist's tool kit. Portable, versatile, and easily configured with appropriate apps, these devices can be used to address cognitive-behavioral challenges at home, work, school and in the community. Strategies for using mobile technologies for time and task management, task-sequencing, wayfinding, behavioral adaptation, augmented communication and video modeling, based on the results of a series of community-based trials with various populations including people with multiple sclerosis, autism, and brain injury, will be discussed. Case studies will focus on shaping the "just right fit" of device, apps, and strategies to solve everyday challenges. Participants will be provided with a catalog of tried-and-true mobile apps and links to instructional materials for further learning.

After watching this webinar, you will:

1. Describe strategies for using mobile technologies as cognitive-behavioral aids.
2. Identify mobile applications for time and task management and behavioral adaptation.
3. State key assessment parameters for matching mobile technologies to the needs of people with cognitive-behavioral challenges.

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