

Research Resources

A monthly newsletter of the

AOTF Institute for the Study of Occupation and Health

June 2012

Warm greetings to *Research Resources* colleagues:

One in Four. This phrase refers to the high prevalence of mental health disorders in the population. These odds suggest it is likely that one in four people in your life right now (e.g., clients you serve, participants in your research study, family, friends, professional colleagues) struggles with mental health issues that disrupt the vital link between everyday living and health.

During May, [Mental Health America](#) continued its long tradition of promoting mental health issues with [Mental Health Month](#). This year, they launched two themes that include free media relations toolkits: Do More for 1 in 4 and Healing Trauma's Invisible Wounds.

The Do More for 1 in 4 campaign emphasizes the ongoing need for awareness, understanding, access, and services that promote mental health and wellness. One in four individuals struggles with mental health disorders like depression, anxiety, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), ADHD, and substance abuse.

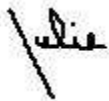
The Healing Trauma's Invisible Wounds campaign highlights the unmet mental health needs of children and adults who have experienced trauma through war, violence, or sexual abuse. Programs that include trauma screening and opportunities for healing are especially important. The effects of trauma are clearly evident in our wounded warriors, refugees, juvenile justice system, crime victims, and priority populations with health disparities.

Research priorities of the [National Institute for Mental Health](#), [World Health Organization](#), and [Healthy People 2020](#) also support these campaigns. They provide many avenues for occupational therapy scientists and practitioners to promote mental wellness and make a difference in the everyday lives of the one in four individuals with mental health conditions and those who are hurting from the invisible wounds of trauma.

This month, *Research Resources* features publications that support occupational therapy interventions and identify opportunities for future study related to these two themes. 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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AOTF Facebook Page

What you missed on Facebook

Our Facebook page posts links to news of a more immediate or personal nature. These are some of last month's links:

[The Unsung Heroes of the AIDS and TB War in South Africa](#) are

OTs. However, their low salaries often force them to seek employment in other countries.

[The Epidemic of Military Suicides](#). XSports4Vets, cofounded by an OT, is one tool to fight PTSD and depression..

[Quinnipiac Students work with Petit Family Foundation](#) to create a sensory trail for

Wilma L. West Library Resource Notes

Occupational Therapy in the Mental Health Arena

Occupational therapy has provided mental health services since the early twentieth century (Gross, 1911). A form of occupational therapy was probably provided even earlier; however, OT SEARCH does not have any earlier citations, though it does contain well over 2,500 citations related to this topic. In the 1990s, many were concerned about the diminishing number of occupational therapy practitioners in this practice area (Kleinman, 1992 and Walens, 1992). The worst case scenario did not happen. Instead, mental health has become a growing concern for OTs. The May-June 2011 issue of the *American Journal of Occupational Therapy* was devoted to studies of the effectiveness of occupational therapy services in mental health; the list of those articles is below.

Gutman, SA. (2011). [Special issue: Effectiveness of occupational therapy services in mental health practice](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 65, 235-237.

Arbesman, M, & Logsdon, DW. (2011). [Occupational therapy interventions for employment and education for adults with serious mental illness: a systematic review](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 65, 238-246.

Gibson, RW, D'Amico, M, Jaffe, L & Arbesman, M. (2011). [Occupational therapy interventions for recovery in the areas of community integration and normative life roles for adults with serious mental illness: a systematic review](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 65, 247-256.

Bullock, A & Bannigan, K. (2011). [Effectiveness of activity-based group work in community mental health: a systematic review](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 65, 257-266.

Edgelow, M & Krupa, T. (2011). [Randomized controlled pilot study of an occupational time-use intervention for people with serious mental illness](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 65, 267-276.

Helfrich, CA, Chan, DV, & Sabol, P. (2011). [Cognitive predictors of life skill intervention outcomes for adults with mental illness at risk for homelessness](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 65, 277-286.

Katz, N & Keren, N. (2011). [Effectiveness of occupational goal intervention for clients with schizophrenia](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 65, 287-296.

Lysack, C, Lichtenberg, P & Schneider, B. (2011). [Effect of a DVD intervention](#)

equine therapy.
[Pediatrician Casts Doubt on SPD Diagnosis](#)



Like us on Facebook and keep up-to-date on news tailored for the OT community.

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](#).

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

Watch for news about Foundation events -- Breakfast with a

[on therapists' mental health practices with older adults](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 65, 297-305.

Foster, ER, Cunnane, KB, Edwards, DF, Morrison, MT, Ewald, GA & Zazulia, AR. (2011). [Executive dysfunction and depressive symptoms associated with reduced Participation of People with severe congestive heart failure](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 65, 306-313.

Odes, H, Katz, N, Noter, E, Shamir, Y, Weizman, A & Valevski, A. (2011). [Level of function at discharge as a predictor of readmission among inpatients with schizophrenia](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 65, 314-319.

Kinnealey, M, Koenig, KP & Smith, S. (2011). [Relationships between sensory modulation and social supports and health-related quality of life](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 65, 320-327.

There is no shortage of published materials concerning occupational therapy services or interventions for persons with a mental illness. Narrowing the selection of articles to include in this short resource list was difficult. Dr. Bass mentions the large number of our "wounded warriors," who are dealing with a mental illness. The article by Beck, et al. (2012) describes an interesting intervention for this population. There have been two recent reviews concerning research and evidence-based practice in mental health (D'Amico, Jaffe & Gibson, 2010 and Gutman, 2012). The American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) has published two official papers. One outlines the knowledge and skills necessary for competent practice in mental health (AOTA, 2010a), and the second is a statement concerning the promotion of psychological and social aspects of mental health (AOTA, 2010b).

AOTA. Commission on Practice. (2010a). [Specialized knowledge and skills in mental health promotion, prevention, and intervention in occupational therapy practice](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 64 (supp), S30-S43.

AOTA. Commission on Practice. (2010b). [Occupational therapy services in the promotion of psychological and social aspects of mental health](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 64 (supp), S78-S91.

Beck, CE, Gonzales, F Jr, Sells, CH, Jones, C, Reer, T, Zhu, YY. (2012 Apr-Jun). The effects of animal-assisted therapy on wounded warriors in an Occupational Therapy Life Skills program. *US Army Medical Department Journal*, 38-45.

D'Amico, M, Jaffe, L & Gibson, RW. (2010). [Mental health evidence in the American Journal of Occupational Therapy](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 64, 660-669.

Gross, EK. (1911). Occupation and recreation classes for the insane. *Maryland Psychiatric Quarterly*, 1, 72-74.

Gutman, SA. (2012). [State of mental health research in the American Journal](#)

Scholar, Research Colloquium, and our Gala.

**OTJR:
Occupation,
Participation and
Health
Online Advanced
Release**

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](#).

Articles appearing in this "Online Advanced Release" section have been peer-reviewed and accepted for publication in *OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health* and posted online before print publication.

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

Jengliang Eric Hwang, PhD, OTR/L

[Factors Associated With the Satisfaction of Participation in Daily Activities for Adults With Class III Obesity](#)

Marv A. Forhan, Marv

[of Occupational Therapy, 2008-2011](#). *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 66, e30-33.

Kleinman, BL. (1992). The issue is: The challenge of providing occupational therapy in mental health. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 46, 555-557. Walens, D. (1992 Mar).

Occupational therapists who specialize in mental health: an endangered or evolving species? *Mental Health Special Interest Section Newsletter*, 15, 1-4.

Conference Announcements

[6th International Convention on Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology \(i-CREATE\) Conference \(July 24-26, 2012, Singapore\)](#)

i-CREATE 2012 will focus on Assistive & Rehabilitation Technology (ART) in an Inclusive Community. Conference include a range of workshops & presentations on people with disabilities using technologies in their daily lives and education.

[4th International Conference on Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics \(July 20-25, 2012, San Francisco, California\)](#)

The conference objective is to provide an international forum for the dissemination and exchange of scientific information on theoretical, generic, and applied areas of ergonomics, including, physical ergonomics, cognitive ergonomics, social and organizational ergonomics, crosscultural aspects of decision making, ergonomics modeling and usability evaluation, human digital modeling, healthcare and special populations, safety and ergonomics in manufacturing, human factors in transportation, affective and pleasurable design, and human side of service engineering. Tutorials will be held on July 21-22, 2012.

[Disability & the Victorians: Confronting Legacies Conference \(July 30-August 1, 2012 Leeds, West Yorkshire, United Kingdom\)](#)

This three-day international conference seeks to address conceptualizations of disability in the Victorian period and their legacy(ies); the ways in which we can draw disabled voices and testimonies together to construct the long view.

[Teaching and Supporting Students with Special Needs Conference \(August 6-7, 2012 Sydney, New South Wales, Australia\)](#)

A conference for teachers and education support staff and anyone else interested in the education and welfare of students with special needs.

[Victorian Autism Conference Conference \(August 9-10, 2012 Melbourne, Victoria, Australia\)](#)

The 2012 Victorian Autism Conference will focus on providing families and professionals with practical strategies and information on Autism Spectrum Disorders and will address topics from across the lifespan.

[International Conference on cerebral palsy and Developmental Disabilities Conference \(March 8-10, 2013, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India \)](#)

C. Law; Valerie H. Taylor; Brenda H. Vrkljan

[Correlates of Community Participation Among Families Transitioning From Part C Early Intervention Services](#)

Mary Alunkal Khetani; Gael Orsmond; Ellen Cohn; Mary Law; Wendy Coster

[The Mirror Neuron System: Innovations and Implications for Occupational Therapy](#)

Sook-Lei Liew; Kathleen A. Garrison; Julie Werner; Lisa Aziz-Zadeh

[Contribution of Tactile and Kinesthetic Perceptions to Handwriting in Taiwanese Children in First and Second Grade](#)

Tzu-Ying Yu; Jim Hinojosa; Tsu-Hsin Howe; Gerald T. Voelbel

[The Flow Experiences of People With Chronic Pain](#)

Katie Robinson; Norelee Kennedy; Dominic Harmon

[Neighborhood Influences on Participation Among Older Adults With Chronic Health Conditions: A Scoping Review](#)

Carri Hand; Mary Law; Mary Ann McColl; Steven Hanna; Susan J. Elliott

This is the largest international conference on pediatric disabilities and cerebral palsy.

[National Forum on Disability Issues \(September 28, 2012, Columbus, Ohio\)](#)

This will be a non-partisan forum where presidential contenders are scheduled to offer their visions of policy that affects people with disabilities. Invitees include President Barack Obama and presumptive Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney.

[Sixth Australasian Occupational Science Symposium \(December 6, 2012, Canberra, Australia\)](#)

Occupation for Population Health is theme of this symposium. Invited speakers from disciplines including public health, urban design, occupational science, and prominent policy makers will present keynote addresses, participate in panels and facilitate small and large group discussions.

[11th Congress of World Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation \(WAPR\) \(November 10-13, 2012, Milan, Italy\)](#)

The Congress title is "Change thinking, Change practice Change services." In this congress, original foundations, past developments, current vision and future prospects of long-term care and rehabilitation of people experiencing severe mental disorders will be critically reviewed.

[The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - How to Use it \(June 18-23, 2012 Galway, Ireland\)](#)

The purpose of this six-day Summer School from the Centre for Disability Law and Policy is to equip participants with the insights and skills necessary to translate the generalities of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into tangible reform for persons with disabilities.

[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 \(November 30 - December 1, 2012, Baltimore, Maryland\)](#)

Online Resources

[Developing a Protocol for Observational Comparative Effectiveness Research: A User's Guide](#)

Researchers affiliated with the AHRQ DEcIDE Network have authored a new publication intended to serve as a resource for investigators and stakeholders when developing observational comparative

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

Tracy Jirikowic;
Heather Carmichael
Olson; Susan Astley

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

John L. Liu; Pamela K.
Richardson

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

effectiveness research (CER) studies. The User's Guide identifies key considerations and best practices for designing observational CER studies and standardizes the review of study protocols with checklists that are provided in each chapter.

[Accelerating Progress in Obesity Prevention: Solving the Weight of the Nation](#)

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation asked the Institute of Medicine to identify catalysts that could speed progress in obesity prevention. The IOM evaluated prior obesity prevention strategies and identified recommendations to meet the following goals and accelerate progress: integrate physical activity every day in every way; market what matters for a healthy life; make healthy foods and beverages available everywhere; activate employers and health care professionals; and strengthen schools as the heart of health. On their own, accomplishing any one of these might help speed up progress in preventing obesity, but together, their effects will be reinforced, amplified, and maximized. Released: May 8, 2012

[Alliances for Obesity Prevention: Finding Common Ground - Workshop Summary](#)

In October 2011, the Institute of Medicine's Standing Committee on Childhood Obesity Prevention hosted a workshop in order to hear from organizations, movements, and sectors with the potential to be allies for obesity prevention, and to identify common ground and engender dialogue among them. The workshop speakers discussed how to develop innovative alliances that can bring synergies to efforts and resources, accelerate progress, and sustain efforts toward obesity prevention. They explored common ground for joint activities and mutual successes, and lessons learned from efforts at aligning diverse groups with goals in common. This document summarizes the workshop. Released: May 11, 2012

Education Resources

[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.

[The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - How to Use it \(June 18-23, 2012, Galway, Ireland\)](#)

The Centre for Disability Law and Policy, at the National University of Ireland, Galway, is pleased to announce its third Summer School. The purpose of this six-day Summer School, run by the Centre for Disability Law and Policy, is to equip participants with the insights and

application.

[US Labor Department seeks submissions for disability employment app challenge](#)

The goal of the app challenge is to promote recruitment resources for employers, develop job training and skill-building tools for job seekers, facilitate employment-related transportation options and expand information communication technology accessibility. Awards with cash prizes - totaling \$10,000 - will be given to the top three submissions, including the grand prize Innovation Award, the second prize People's Choice Award, and the third prize Above and Beyond Accessibility Award.

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skills necessary to translate the generalities of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into tangible reform for persons with disabilities.

Occupational Therapy: History in Focus

G. Canby Robinson and the Sensitive Alliance between Medicine and Occupational Therapy

George Canby Robinson, MD was well into his distinguished medical career in 1924 when he was invited to address the 8th Annual Meeting of the fledgling American Occupational Therapy Association in Buffalo, New York. At the time, Robinson was a medical professor at Vanderbilt University, but he had been educated at Johns Hopkins and had previously helped establish the medical departments at Rockefeller University and Washington University at St. Louis. He would go on to lead the medical department at Cornell University and to achieve other distinctions, including playing a key role in establishing Red Cross blood banks.

Robinson was unable to attend the Buffalo meeting, so Thomas Kidner, who was AOTA president at the time, probably read his paper. Dr.

Robinson's paper concerned the relationship between occupational therapy and medicine, and argued that occupational therapy should work cooperatively with medicine, honoring the need for holistic approaches but drawing on sound knowledge. Robinson admonished against "cultism" and the temptation to move toward a non-scientific "healing" role that emphasized the art of practice in manner uncoupled from science. The paper asserted that "much of the knowledge necessary for the occupational therapist in dealing sincerely with a patient must be supplied by the doctor."



George Canby Robinson.

Although well intentioned, some attendees may have considered Robinson's paper to be somewhat chauvinistic, given that women at the time were reconsidering traditional roles and asserting their rightful place as equals in society. Eleanor Clarke Slagle, who worked tirelessly to establish the new profession, was aware that occupational therapy needed to ally itself with medicine and other established disciplines for political reasons. Yet, there was resistance to the idea of medical control and a form of practice that would be driven by diagnosis rather than the human needs of the patient. Over the years, this "tension" between medicalization and humanism has persisted in

the field, thus establishing Dr. Robinson's paper as an early example of an unsettled relationship between the two professions, and of the necessary tension between the art and science of practice.

Notes:

Robinson, G. Canby. The Relation of Occupational Therapy and Medicine Archives of Occupational Therapy (v 4, 1, pp 1-5.).

Image Credit: The Bernard Becker Medical Library. Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis.

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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