

THE WILMA L. WEST LIBRARY

Pathfinder for the Role of Occupational Therapy in Serious Mental Illness

Scope

The purpose of the pathfinders created by the staff of the Wilma L. West Library is to provide occupational therapy practitioners and students, as well as consumers, starting points from which to begin to do research about a topic. A pathfinder is not a comprehensive listing of available resources but a guide to specific and reliable sources of information.

Introduction to the topic

Serious mental illness (SMI) is defined as a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder resulting in serious functional impairment, which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. The burden of mental illnesses is particularly concentrated among those who experience disability due to SMI. (Retrieved on January 29, 2018 from <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/mental-illness.shtml>)

Online databases

Suggested subject terms to use in searching are schizophrenia, bipolar disorders, and psychotic disorders

MedlinePlus®

Health information for patients, families and health care providers. Also in Spanish. Access to this government-supported database is free.

OT SEARCH

OT Search contains over 41,000 citations for occupational therapy literature and related subject areas dating from the early 1900's. Citations may include links to full-text content. It is a subscription-based service.

PsychINFO

PsycINFO is an expansive abstracting and indexing database with more than 3 million records devoted to peer-reviewed literature from the 1800s to the present in the behavioral sciences and mental health, making it an ideal discovery and linking tool for scholarly research.

PubMed

PubMed comprises more than 20 million citations for biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books. Citations may include links to full-text

content from PubMed Central and publisher web sites. Access to this government-supported database is free.

Reference resources (print and electronic)

What is “Serious Mental Illness” and what is not

<https://mentalillnesspolicy.org/serious-mental-illness-not/>

Associations, Foundations, and Organizations

[Mental Illness Policy Org](#)

[National Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\)](#)

[National Institute of Mental Health \(NIMH\)](#)

[Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\)](#)

Image, Video, Webinars, or Podcasts

Addressing serious mental illness; Effective prevention, treatment and recovery strategies. (Webinars)

<https://www.samhsa.gov/addressing-serious-mental-illness-webinar-series>

American Occupational Therapy Association, Inc. (AOTA) Resources

Bazyk, S. & Arbesman, M. (2013). Occupational therapy practice guidelines for mental health promotion, prevention, and intervention for children and youth. Bethesda, MD: AOTA Press.

Brown, C. (2012). [Occupational therapy practice guidelines for adults with serious mental illness](#). Bethesda, MD: AOTA Press.

Castaneda, R, Olson, L.M. & Radley, L.C. (2012). Occupational therapy’s role in community mental health. (Fact Sheet). Bethesda, MD: American Occupational Therapy Association. (Retrieved on January 23, 2018 from <https://www.aota.org/~media/Corporate/Files/AboutOT/Professionals/WhatsOT/MH/Facts/Community-mental-health.pdf>)

[Occupational therapy’s perspective on the use of environments and contexts to facilitate health, well-being, and participation in occupations \(2015\)](#)

Selected articles on the role of occupational therapy

Ayres, H. & John, A.P. (2015). [The Assessment of Motor and Process Skills as a measure of ADL ability in schizophrenia](#). *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 22, 470-477. doi: 10.3109/11038128.2015.1061050.

- Bjørkedal, S.T., Torsting, A.M. & Møller, T. (2016). [Rewarding yet demanding: client perspectives on enabling occupations during early stages of recovery from schizophrenia](#). *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 23, 97-106. doi: 10.3109/11038128.2015.1082624.
- Clewes, J., Shivamurthy, S. & Wrigley, S. (2013). [Brightening his days: A reflective single case-study of social integration and recovery](#). *Occupational Therapy in Mental Health*, 29, 159-180. doi:10.1080/0164212X.2013.7889787.
- Doroud, N., Fossey, E. & Fortune, T. (2015). [Recovery as an occupational journey: A scoping review exploring the links between occupational engagement and recovery for people with enduring mental health issues](#). *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal*, 62, 378-392. doi: 10.1111/1440-1630.12238.
- Gindi, S., Galili, G., Volovic-Shushan, S. & Adir-Pavis, S. (2016). [Integrating occupational therapy in treating combat stress reaction within a military unit: An intervention model](#). *WORK : A Journal of Prevention, Assessment & Rehabilitation*, 55, 737-745. doi: 10.3233/WOR-162453.
- Gitlow, L., Abdelaal, F., Etienne, A., Hensley, J., Krukowski, E. & Toner, M. (2017). [Exploring the current usage and preferences for everyday technology among people with serious mental illnesses](#). *Occupational Therapy in Mental Health*, 33, 1-14. doi:10.1080/0164212X.2016.1211061.
- Hultqvist, J., Eklund, M. & Leufstadius, C. (2015). [Empowerment and occupational engagement among people with psychiatric disabilities](#). *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 22, 54-61. doi:10.3109/11038128.2014.934916.
- Lannigan, E. G. (2014). [Consumer perspectives of participation in vocational programs for individuals with serious mental illness: Two phenomenological studies](#). *Occupational Therapy in Mental Health*, 30, 215-225. doi:10.1080/0164212X.2014.939933.
- Lexén, A., Hofgren, C., Stenmark, R., & Bejerholm, U. (2016). [Cognitive functioning and employment among people with schizophrenia in vocational rehabilitation](#). *WORK : A Journal of Prevention, Assessment & Rehabilitation*, 54, 735-744. doi:10.3233/WOR-162318.
- Lipskaya-Velikovsky, L., Avrech Bar, M. & Bart, O. (2014). [Context and psychosocial intervention in mental health](#). *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 21, 136-144. doi:10.3109/11038128.2013.871334.
- Lipskaya-Velikovsky, L., Jarus, T., Easterbrook, A. & Kotler, M. (2016). [Participation in daily life of people with schizophrenia in comparison to the general population](#). *Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 83, 297-305. doi:10.1177/0008417416647158.
- McGurk, S.R., Mueser, K.T., Watkins, M.A., Dalton, C.M. & Deutsch H. (2017). [The feasibility of implementing cognitive remediation for work in community based psychiatric rehabilitation programs](#). *Psychiatric rehabilitation journal*, 40, 79-86. doi:10.1037/prj0000257.

Scanlan, J. N. & Still, M. (2015). [Cognitive adaptation training demonstrated benefits for individuals living with schizophrenia in terms of community functioning and impact of auditory hallucinations.](#) *Australian Occupational Therapy Journal*, 62, 367-368. doi:10.1111/1440-1630.12231

Smith, R., De Witt, P., Franszen, D., Pillay, M., Wolfe, N. & Davies, C. (2014). [Occupational performance factors perceived to influence the readmission of mental health care users diagnosed with schizophrenia.](#) *South African Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 44, 51-56.

Speicher, S. M., Walter, K. H. & Chard, K. M. (2014). [Interdisciplinary residential treatment of posttraumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury: Effects on symptom severity and occupational performance and satisfaction.](#) *The American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 68, 412-421. doi:10.5014/ajot.2014.011304.

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