Research Resources

Spring Greetings to Research Resources colleagues:

April 2nd has been declared World Autism Day to raise awareness of global needs related to autism research and services. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, introduced a call-to-action to work hand-in-hand with persons with autism spectrum disorders, helping them to cultivate their strengths while addressing the challenges they face so they can lead the productive lives that are their birthright.

The Centers for Disease Control estimate that about 1 in 50 children are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Many children with ASD have social, communication, and behavioral challenges that limit their participation in family, school, and community life. Occupational therapy interventions may address these needs of children with ASD and provide caregivers important support and training.

Autism has received increased attention in the occupational therapy community as well. Representatives from the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) recently met with Autism-Speaks, an organization that promotes research, awareness, and advocacy on issues related to autism. Dr. Sylvia Rodger (2013 inductee of the AOTF Academy of Research) has been named the director of a multimillion dollar Cooperative Research Centre at the University of Queensland, Australia, to promote early diagnosis, development of educational programs, and engagement in community life. The AOTF and AOTA have also identified autism as a priority area for collaborative initiatives in occupational therapy research.

To advance research in autism and other priority areas, AOTF will soon be announcing new grant opportunities and a Request for Applications.

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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
As our Research Resources readers know, building our occupational therapy research capacity and evidence for practice requires your support. I invite you to become part of this future research endeavor by giving generously to the American Occupational Therapy Foundation, your foundation for life.

We invite you to survey the sample of publications that were 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
Director of Research

Resource Notes:
Autism Spectrum Disorders and Occupational Therapy Interventions
The AOTF and the AOTA have identified research concerning the effectiveness of occupational therapy interventions for persons with autism spectrum disorders (ADS) as a priority for future collaboration. Here are links to AOTA resources, current official papers, and practice guidelines.

Education Opportunities
Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing Summer Research Institute on Developing Behavioral Interventions (June 12-14, 2013, Baltimore, Maryland)
This institute is designed to help participants develop testable interventions that have the potential for implementation in practice environments and advance appropriate trial designs. AOTF is offering partial scholarships for two OTs. Find the application here; deadline is May 31.

Sensory Processing Disorder Foundation Intensive Mentorship Program
This intensive five-day training program provides an overview of and training in assessments used at the STAR Center. Guided by Dr. Lucy Jane Miller, the program has several dates available in 2013.

Fellowship Opportunity
National Space Biomedical Research Institute’s (NSBRI) Postdoctoral Fellowship Program
These two-year fellowships are available in any U.S. laboratory carrying out space-related biomedical or biotechnological research. NSBRI.

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OTJR Seeks Articles
OTJR: Occupation, Participation and Health encourages submission of original research reports of assessment/measurement development, efficacy of interventions (preventive, restorative, and compensatory), intervention outcomes, translational research, and basic research (including occupational science). Reports that examine OT interventions and contribute to the evidence for theoretically based occupational therapy practices are welcomed. High quality, rigorous quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods research reports are especially encouraged. For more information on publishing in this peer-reviewed journal, see its website.

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.
funded by NASA, is a consortium of institutions studying the health risks related to long-duration spaceflight and developing the medical technologies needed for long missions. Detailed program and application submission information is available. The application deadline is June 7, 2013.

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Online Resources
NCD Recommendations To Implement Medicaid Managed Care Without Harming Americans with Disabilities
The National Council on Disability (NCD) - an independent federal agency that advises the President, Congress, and other federal agencies on disability policy -- released Medicaid Managed Care for People with Disabilities: Policy and Implementation Considerations for State and Federal Policymakers to assist with the implementation of managed care reforms without harming Americans with disabilities.

Information for Independence: A Wealth of Resources Available for Free
AbleData and the National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC) offer the most comprehensive collection of information on almost every aspect of disability, including resources, assistive technology, research, and support organizations. Information on more than 100,000 products and resources are available online for free and at no or low cost. Information specialists are available on AbleData's toll-free information line, 800-227-0216, or via email at abledata@macrointernational.com. Patrons can connect with NARIC information specialists in English and Spanish by toll-free phone at 800/346-2742 or by email at naricinfo@heitechservices.com.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Publishing and Communications Guidelines Updated February 2013
The AHRQ Publishing and Communications Guidelines outline the standards for AHRQ products developed in-house and by contractors.

This new report by AHRQ encourages health care providers to adopt patient safety strategies that are proven to be effective. The new report emphasizes evidence about implementation, adoption and the context in which safety strategies have been used.

Grant Opportunities
The Society for the Study of Occupation (SSO) Research Grants
SSO:USA invites occupational science students who are members of SSO:USA to submit research grant proposals with direct relevance to at least one of the priorities of the society. Up to $1,500 will be awarded. Proposals are due: April 30, 2013.

OT: History in Focus

Participation Patterns of Urban Preschoolers Attending Head Start
Meredith P. Gronski, OTD, OTR/L; Ann Niemann, MA Ed; Christine Berg, PhD, OTR/L

Effect of Gravity on Movement and Muscle Characteristics for Daily Occupational Performance in Sitting and Side-lying Positions in Adults
Kinsuk Maitra, PhD, OTR/L; Hae Yean Park, PhD, OT

Differential Item Functioning in a Computerized Adaptive Test of Functional Status for People With Shoulder Impairments Is Negligible Across Pain Intensity, Gender, and Age Groups
Bhagwant S. Sindhu, PhD, OTR; Ying-Chih Wang; Leigh A. Lehman, PhD; Dennis L. Hart, PhD

AOTF Events at AOTA Conference, San Diego, April 25-28, 2013
For more information and registration info see the AOTA web site.

The Millennial Generation: Promoting Professionalism in the Workplace WS 300
-- Dr. Jean Twenge will discuss developing professionalism in young OT students and clinicians with a focus on teaching, mentoring, and communication between generations. Saturday, April 27, 8:00-11:00 a.m. included with conference registration Sponsored by PTE.

Breakfast with a Scholar
-- Rear Admiral Marty Evans, US Navy (Retired) will speak on learning from past failures of imagination. Friday, April 26, 7:30-9:00 a.m. $50 includes breakfast.

Research Colloquium -- A New Era of Rehabilitation Research in Occupational Therapy: Science and Scientists.
Friday, April 26, 2:00-5:00 p.m. $35 includes refreshments.

Doctoral Network -- Stories of Doctoral & Post-Doctoral Education
Beginning an Era- the Medicare Legislation of 1965

President Lyndon Johnson signs Medicare legislation in 1965.

A large segment of occupational therapy practice is influenced by the federal legislation that created Medicare and Medicaid, now collectively consuming as much of the federal budget as national defense (24%). Signed by Lyndon Baines Johnson, Medicare was not the first attempt to put in place a program of health care for Americans, targeted primarily at persons over 65, which constituted the age group with the largest proportion of persons living in poverty. Today, 40 million seniors and 8 million other individuals, including persons with disabilities or certain terminal illnesses, are covered under Medicare. Read more.

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Conference Announcements

The 2013 Southwest Conference on Disability (October 8-11, 2013, Albuquerque, New Mexico)

Call for papers is now open on the following themes:

- The Rehabilitation Act at 40: Promises Kept, Promises Still to Keep
- Assistive Technology: Opening the Door for People with Disabilities
- When the Community, Business and Government Collaborate, People with Disabilities Work
- Access to Health for Women with Disabilities
- Brain Injury: A Family Affair Across the Lifespan

The deadline for proposals is May 28, 2013.

2013 Neurorehabilitation Workshop: "I - TREAT" (Instruction in Techniques to Rehabilitate, Evaluate, and Assess in Stroke) (June 22, 2013, Columbus, Ohio)

A hands-on stroke workshop for physical and occupations therapists, "I-TREAT" will bring together leaders in physical therapy, occupational therapy, and neuroscience to provide clinicians with hands-on training in stroke treatment, evaluation, and assessment.

3rd Global Conference Making Sense Of: Chronicity (Sept 23-25, 2013, Oxford, United Kingdom)

The apparent increase in and diversity of chronic conditions calls for better understandings of the spaces between health and illness that chronic patients occupy, often for most of their lives and raises questions not just about those that suffer, but also about those that care for them, available treatments and care, and social inclusiveness.

4th Brain Development and Learning: Making Sense of the Science Conference (July 24-
An interdisciplinary conference devoted to improving children's lives by highlighting innovative programs and by making the newest research and applicable to those who work with children.

Health Disparities Research at the Intersection of Race, Ethnicity, and Disability: A National Conference (April 25-26, 2013, Washington, DC)
The conference will bring together researchers, advocates, and policy makers in racial and ethnic disparities and disability-related disparities to: learn about barriers to health care and health promotion for people with disabilities in underserved racial and ethnic groups, share work on health disparities at this intersection, and discuss priorities for future research and action.

12th European AAATE Conference (Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe) Conference (September 19-22, 2013, Vilamoura, Portugal)
Presentations are sought which will contribute to the advancement of assistive technology, not only in technological areas, but in all the fields closely related with this domain of knowledge: education and training, service provision, research, industry, legislation.

The Cochrane Collaboration's 2013 Colloquium (September 19-23, 2013, Québec City, Québec)
The focus of this year's colloquium: Better Knowledge for Better Health will focus on evidence that informs health care decisions at every level -- from patient to practitioner, to institutional or government policy maker. Founded in 1993, The Cochrane Collaboration is the largest global network of scientists, researchers, health policy-makers and consumer advocates involved in the production of systematic reviews of healthcare evidence. **Abstract submission deadline: April 1, 2013.**

16th International Congress of World Federation of Occupational Therapists (June 18-21, 2014, Yokohama, Japan)
Presented in collaboration with the 48th Japanese OT Congress & Expo, the Congress themes are: disaster preparedness, response and recovery, inter-professional collaboration and the role of OT, wisdom: learning from the past, tradition for the future, innovations and challenges in OT, education and research: meeting the demands from the field, evidence-based practice and quality of OT, the nature of human occupation, community & OT. **Abstract submission deadline: April 30, 2013.**

Nordic Network on Disability Research - 12th Research Conference (May 30-31, 2013, Turku, Finland)
NNDR2013 conference welcomes a wide range of contributions applying social, cultural, historical and philosophical perspectives to the study of disability.

Canadian Disability Studies Association 2013 Annual Conference (June 5-7, 2013, Victoria, British Columbia)
CDSA's 2013 theme "Disability @ the Edge" reflects the ways in which disability both pushes and is pushed to the edges of varied cultural, social and political realms. It is part of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, June 1-8.

29th Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability & Diversity (April 29-30, 2013, Honolulu, Hawaii)
The conference theme 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.

AOTA Education Summit (October 4-5, 2013, Atlanta, Georgia)
The summit will cover: pedagogy and instructional design; foundations for OT/OTA education and practice; and capacity building with the profession and academia.

5th Annual Health Literacy Research Conference (October 28-29, 2013, Washington, DC)
This interdisciplinary meeting for investigators dedicated to health literacy research is an opportunity to advance the field of health literacy, a method to raise the quality of our research, and a venue for professional development.

About Us

AOTF is a 501(c)3 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.

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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.

Resource Notes Continued


Using the subject headings Autistic Disorder, Asperger Syndrome, or Child Development Disorders, Pervasive, a searcher retrieves over 350 citations from OT SEARCH dating back to the 1970s. The articles included in this month’s Research Resources are recent and report on studies of the effectiveness of occupational therapy interventions.


History Continued

Numerous amendments to the original legislation have been enacted in the past 50 years, affecting qualification, premiums, expansion of benefits, required services, and cost controls. Changes in the late 1980s had the most impact on occupational therapy, since coverage was expanded to include certain outpatient and community based services including those in rehabilitation units and skilled nursing facilities. Caps on billing have been one strategy used to control costs, and these caps have affected occupational therapy along with other health care providers.

It is important to note that attempts to provide health insurance for Americans began in 1915, with Theodore Roosevelt and the Progressive Party. This was unsuccessful, and it was not until 1932 that FDR proposed a federal/state program of universal insurance that the matter was revisited. Ultimately, FDR dropped the proposal in favor of gaining support for other legislation. A bill in 1943 would have implemented health insurance as part of Social Security, which had been enacted in 1935. It also failed. Although Harry Truman advocated for national health insurance in his successful election campaign, it was opposed as "socialism" by the American Medical Association (AMA) and politicians in the Southern United States. Although the AMA had been supportive of legislation in 1915, it continuously opposed all efforts at reform until the Affordable Care Act (ACA) was proposed and passed in 2010. President Obama dropped a provision that would have provided a public option under the ACA.
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.

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