Priority Activity Items for Fiscal 2017

Contributions to infrastructure creation for Integrated Community Care System currently under development and assistance in fostering human resources for such a system.

The creation of the Integrated Community Care System is under way in regions throughout Japan, meaning that personnel who can contribute to the system’s establishment must be educated, trained, hired, and put to work. The Japanese Association of Occupational Therapists (JAOT) considers that this system should be beneficial for not only local elderly people, but also disabled people and, indeed, all residents of a community. Fiscal year (FY) 2018 promises to be a major turning point for occupational therapy (OT), with the simultaneous revision of medical service fees and long-term care fees, as well as the revision of welfare service fees for people with disabilities. The JAOT is undertaking wide-ranging engagements to obtain feedback about these revisions and other aspects of the OT environment. The JAOT will strengthen its proposals for legal revisions, reinforce its public-relations activities, promote the participation of occupational therapists in Preventative Care and Daily Life Support projects, and promote the placement of occupational therapists in welfare-service fields for people with disabilities. To realize these aims, the association will also work closely with people in other businesses and other professionals engaged in all OT-related domains. Together, we will make proposals to the national government for the reform of OT education and training systems, as well as the strengthening of postgraduate education and lifelong learning programs. Thus, 2018 will be a year of
vigorous and meaningful activities for the JAOT.

In addition, we will create our next midterm plan, as 2017 is the final year of our “2nd Five-year Strategy for Occupational Therapy (2013–2017).”

1. **Engagements for the development of the science of occupational therapy**

   1) Subject to approval by the General Meeting of Association Members, with the aim of preparing for a revision to the current “Physical Therapists and Occupational Therapists Act,” we will revise the JAOT’s Definition of Occupational Therapy.

   2) We will promote case registration under the Management Tool for Daily Life Performance (MTDLP) (including holding workshops of the MTDLP).

2. **Engagements for the improvement of technical skills of occupational therapists**

   1) As preparation for the implementation of the reform of national Regulations for the Designation of OT Schools and Training Institutions, we will hold deliberative discussions and issue summary reports.

   2) We will create “Guidelines for OT Clinical Practice (Draft),” and publish and notify the public about the “Handbook of OT Clinical Practice Guidance and Instruction (5th Edition).”

   3) We will translate and notify the public about the “World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) Revised Minimum Standards for the Education of Occupational Therapists”.
3. Engagements to promote the effective use of occupational therapy

1) We will ascertain the status of participants in the Japanese strategy on dementia, the New Orange Plan (Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare), and the collection and summary of actual cases, so as to clarify the role therein of occupational therapists and promote their participation.

2) We will clarify the role of occupational therapists in episode-of-care payment-type medical and long-term care, and in short-term intensive rehabilitation.

3) We will promote participation in Community Care Meetings and in the Care Prevention and Daily Life Support Project (Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare), as well as stronger cooperative work with prefectural occupational therapist associations and groups.

4) We will accumulate case studies in which the Management Tool for Daily Life Performance (MTDLP) has been applied to intractable diseases, developmental disorders, mental disorders, etc.

4. Engagements for the promotion and spread of occupational therapy

1) We will hold joint workshops with other organizations to support job seekers with disabilities.

2) We will participate in and provide a display at the 32nd International Conference of Alzheimer’s Disease International (ADI2017) to communicate Japan’s dementia-related OT.

5. Engagements for collaboration and exchange with internal and external organizations and groups

1) We will deepen public relations activities of the All Japan
Council of Rehabilitation Medical Associations, and we will intensify appeals and proposals to the national government about the simultaneous revision of medical service fees and long-term care fees in FY 2018.

2) We will examine previous and existing collaboration and exchange with East Asian countries, including the Exchange Meeting with East Asian Countries (EMEAC), with a clear statement of future orientation.

3) We will create a system for the cooperation to the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics.

6. Engagements with people who have experienced disasters, such as large-scale natural disasters

1) We will cooperate with prefectural associations of occupational therapists, among others, for disaster-response training.

7. Engagements for the association’s corporate management and administration

1) We will develop our next mid-term plan.

2) We will develop responses to improve the association’s organization-coverage rates (to increase participation rates of newly qualified graduates).

3) We will establish membership management systems, including those for post-qualification education (lifelong learning) and system measures.

4) We will strengthen the Administrative Office’s organizational systems (placement of full-time occupational therapists).

5) We will establish childcare facilities and infrastructure to enable association members who are raising children to
participate more easily in congresses, seminars, and other events.