

Post COVID-19 Issues in Taiwan

President Ching-Yi Wu, ScD, OTR
Taiwan Occupational Therapy Association

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Taiwan**

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**Occupational Therapists Act
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- Teaching
- Continuing education courses

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**Provision of Occupational
Therapy in the Post-COVID
Era**

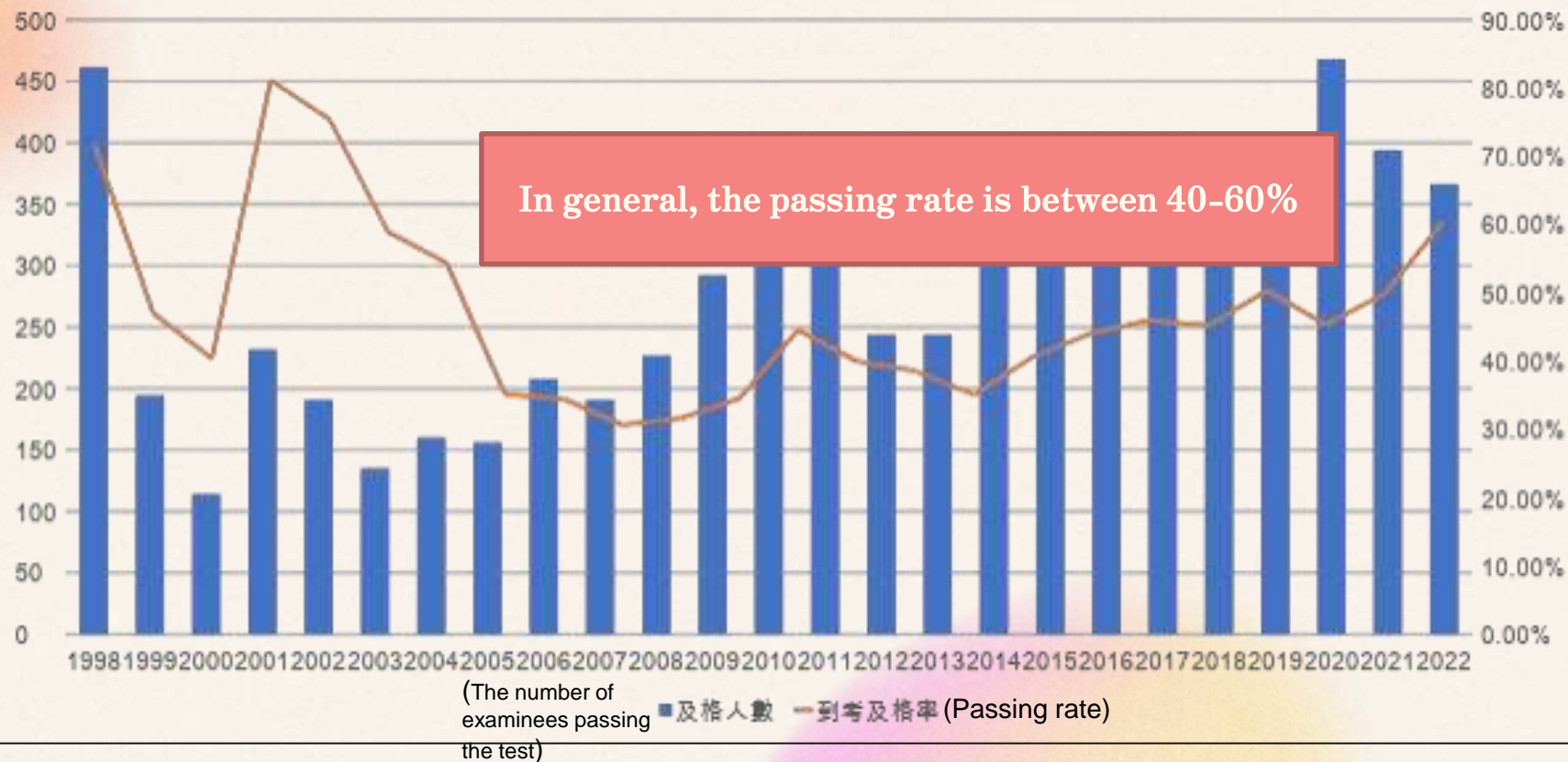
Human resources of Occupational Therapists in Taiwan

The number of students graduating each year

Graduated Years	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Entry Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Students	298	Approximately 300-400 people graduate each year.					
Number of Graduates	288	317	321	316	362	341	399
Number of licensed individuals (Graduates of the current year)	--	223	222	245	269	248	--

Human resources of Occupational Therapists in Taiwan

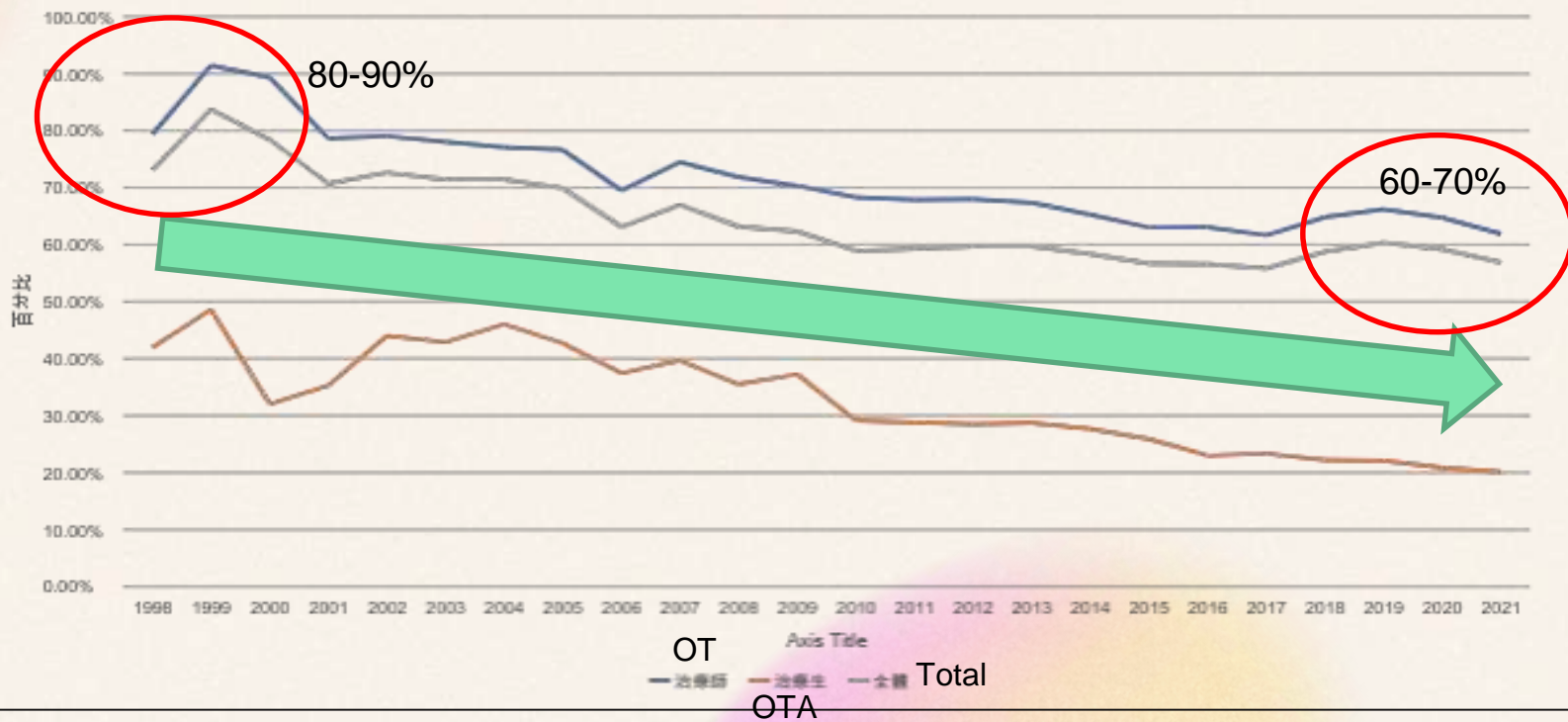
The passing rate for the OT certification test each year



Human resources of Occupational Therapists in Taiwan

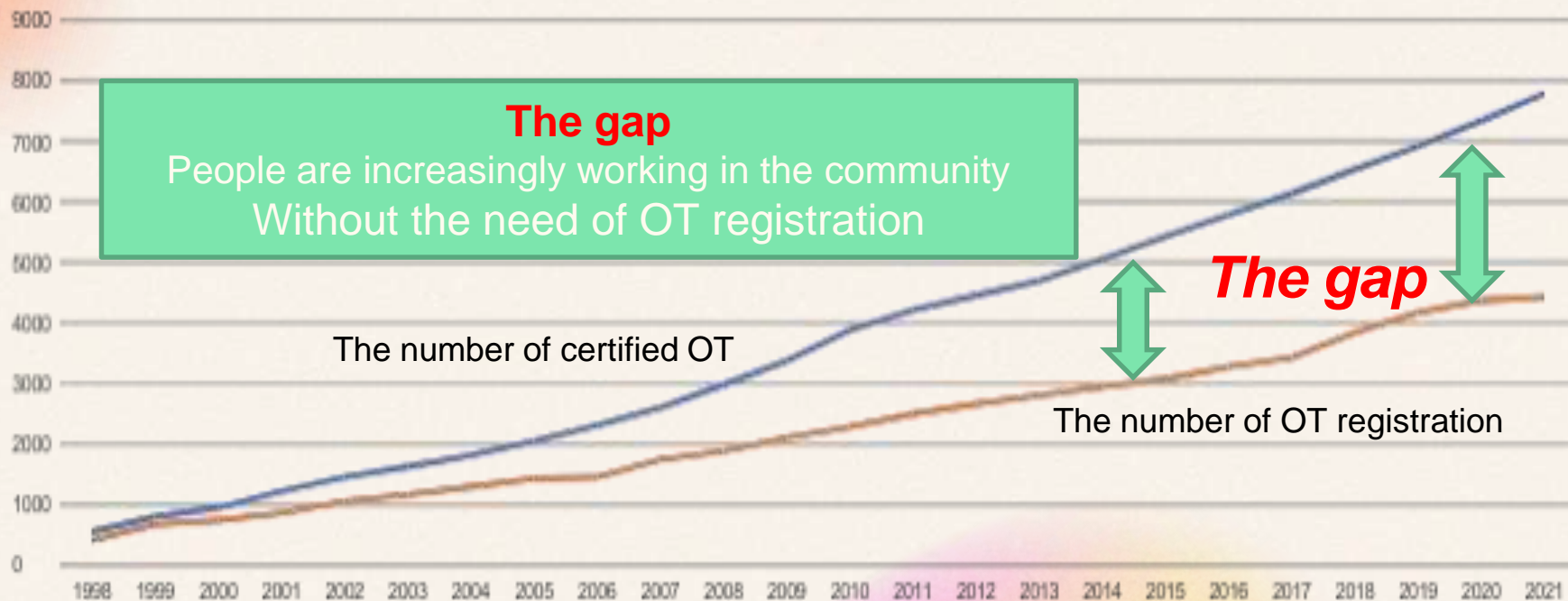
However....

The registration percentage has decreased from 80-90% to 60-70% for OT



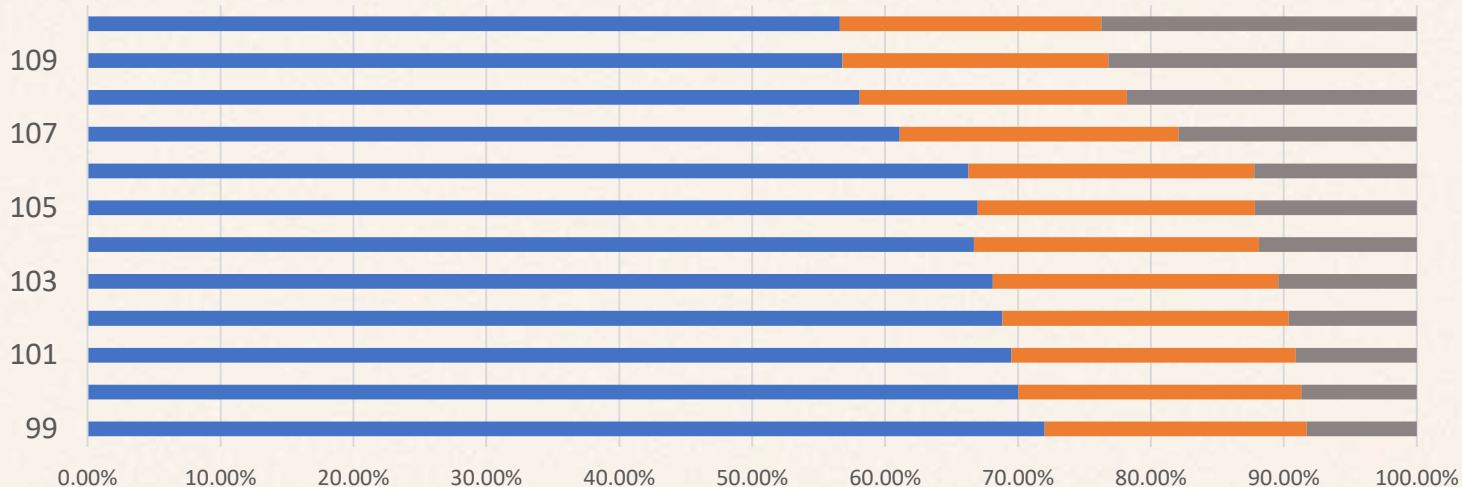
Human resources of Occupational Therapists in Taiwan

The gap between the number of certified OTs and the number of OT registrations



Human resources of Occupational Therapists in Taiwan

Work settings change from medical to community settings
--OTs work in a greater variety of settings.

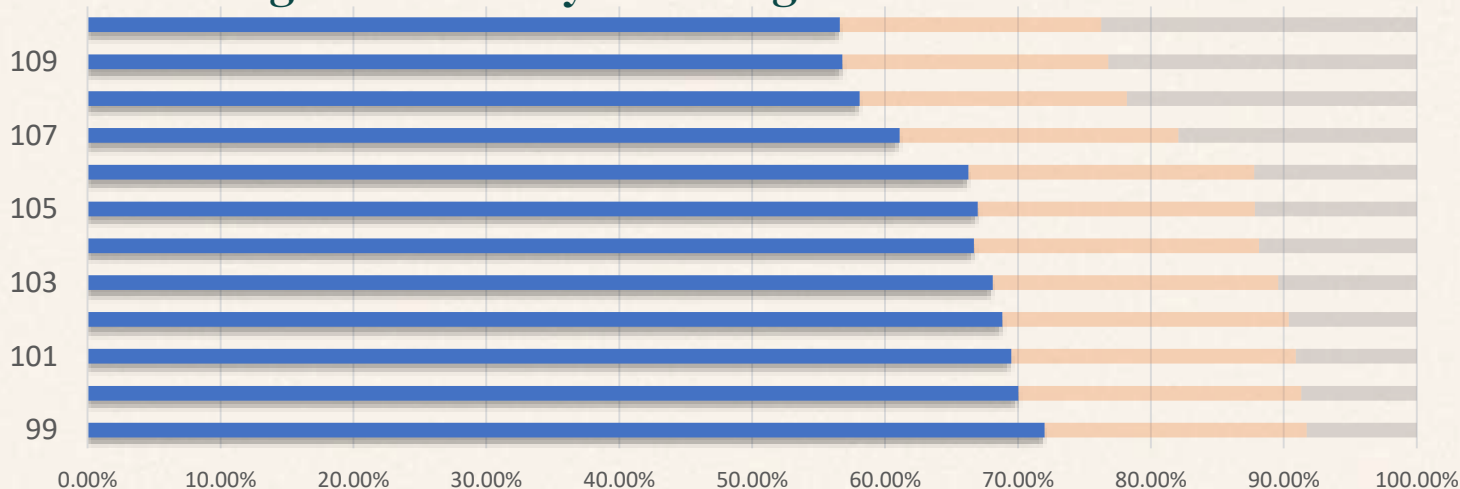


	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
■ 醫院	72.02%	70.03%	69.51%	68.82%	68.11%	66.68%	66.98%	66.27%	61.10%	58.09%	56.78%	56.59%
■ 診所	19.72%	21.27%	21.39%	21.56%	21.47%	21.46%	20.83%	21.51%	20.97%	20.11%	20.02%	19.67%
■ 非醫院非診所	8.26%	8.69%	9.10%	9.62%	10.41%	11.87%	12.19%	12.23%	17.93%	21.81%	23.20%	23.74%

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Human resources of Occupational Therapists in Taiwan

Work settings change from medical to community settings --OTs work in a greater variety of settings.

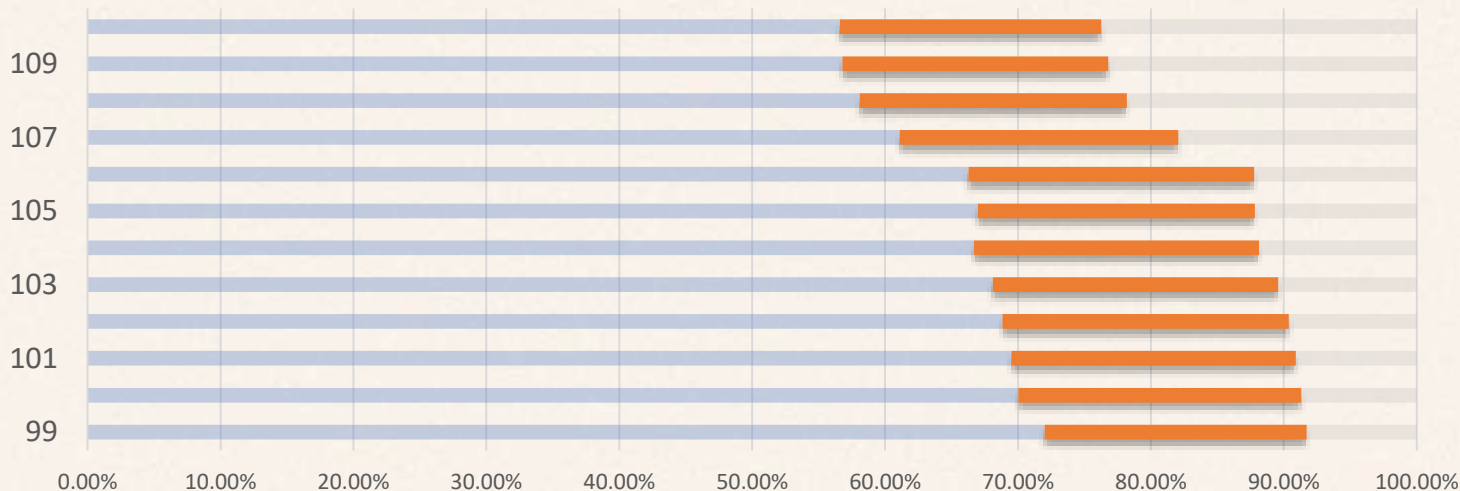


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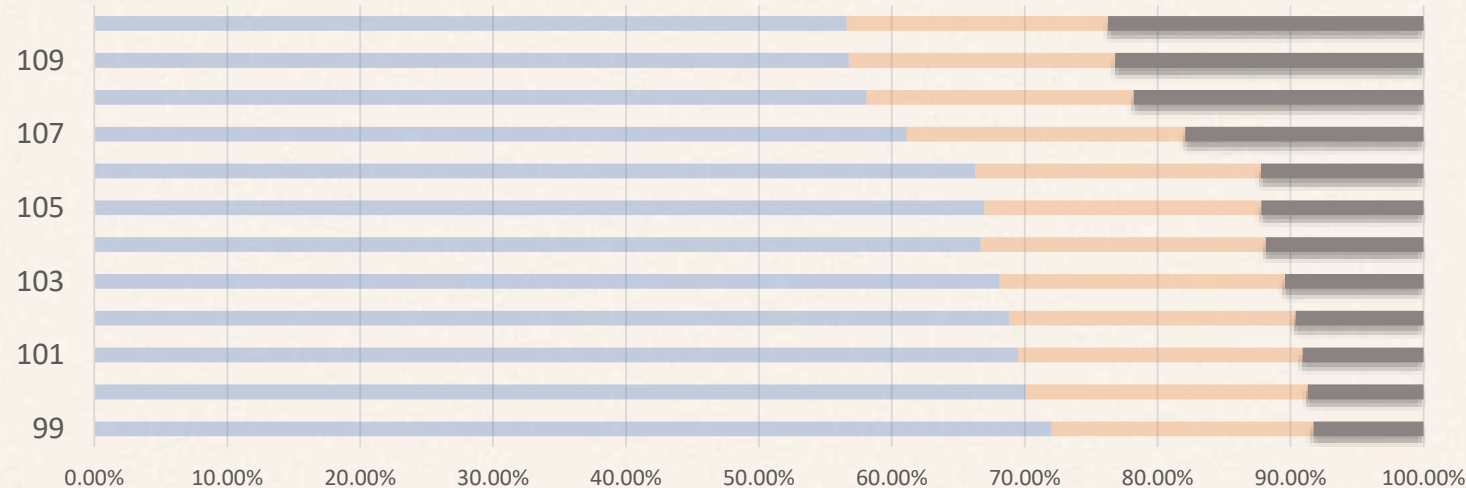


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醫院 診所 非醫院非診所

In summary

OTs work in various settings, from
medical to community settings.

OTs help not only patients but also
individuals with health and
subhealth conditions.

Occupational Therapists Act Amendment

Current Law:

**Occupational Therapy
Provision under
doctor's Medical Order
or Refferal**

→ Occupational therapists cannot provide services to individuals who do not have diseases.

**To establish OT clinics,
occupational therapists need
to have practiced in medical-
related clinics for more than
2 years.**

→ Occupational therapists who work in communities find it difficult to establish OT clinics.

Occupational Therapists Act Amendment

Benefits For the Public:

Amendment of the Act is pivotal and necessary to meet the societal needs and to keep professional regulations up-to-date



Granting
individuals right
of self-referral
to some OT
professional
services



Reducing the
consumption of
disease-related
resources



Exempting from
criminal
liabilities for
providing some
professional
interventions

Occupational Therapists Act Amendment

Thank you to all my friends for their help



Japan

The Group Petition Form for Occupational Therapists Act Amendment

The spirit of occupational therapy is to provide intervention and guidance through professional activities. Individuals may experience unfavorably conditions or unsustainable life expectations. The spirit of occupational therapy is to provide professional intervention and guidance to promote health and improve their quality of life.

Under the circumstances of rapid social development in Taiwan, the concept of "sustainable" is not limited to disease conditions anymore. Individuals may expect to improve their own conditions through health promotion and disease prevention in daily life, work, or school. Unfortunately, aside by the current Occupational Therapists Act in Taiwan, occupational therapists are not allowed to provide professional services in non-medical settings without any medical diagnosis and referrals from physicians. This results in serious waste of time and resources. It is also a setback for occupational therapy in health promotion nationwide in Taiwan. Amending the dated Occupational Therapists Act is pivotal and necessary to meet the societal needs and to keep professional regulations up-to-date.

The proposed amendments may bring benefits listed as follows:

- 1. For the public** - Granting individual's right of self-referral to some OT professional services:
The public have direct access to occupational therapy services according to their own health promotion needs for improving health conditions and quality of life. They will not be denied by the dated Act.
- 2. For the community** - Reducing the consumption of disease-related resources: Occupational therapists are fully qualified to independently assist clients in identifying medical needs, preventing disease, and effectively utilizing medical resources. Occupational therapists may also work closely with local resources to achieve desired outcomes in terms of disease prevention and delaying the occurrence of disabilities.
- 3. For the therapists** - Exempting from criminal liabilities for providing some professional interventions: Amending the Occupational Therapists Act expands occupational therapy professional development. Qualified therapists are recognized and allowed to provide disease prevention services to the public directly without a diagnosis, medical orders, or referrals from physicians.

To provide the public with diverse health services, to benefit the society through creating a healthier common welfare society, and to advance the professional development of occupational therapy, occupational therapists in Taiwan need your support on the amendment of the Occupational Therapists Act!

Initiating organizations for the joint signature campaign:
Occupational Therapists Union of the Republic of China (R.O.C.)
Taiwan Occupational Therapy Association
New Taipei City Occupational Therapy Craft Union

Title of the supporting organization: *Japanese Association of Occupational Therapists
Hiroshi Nakamura*

Signature of the representative of the organization:
*Japanese Association of Occupational Therapists
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The Occupational Therapists Act Amendment

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Taiwan Occupational Therapy Association
New Taipei City Occupational Therapy Craft Union

Title of the supporting organization:
World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT)
Signature of the representative of the organization:
Senshi Ikeda - WFOT President



for the Occupational Therapists Act Amendment

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Taiwan Occupational Therapy Association
New Taipei City Occupational Therapy Craft Union

Title of the supporting organization:
Asia Pacific Occupational Therapy Regional Group
Signature of the representative of the organization:

Occupational Therapists Act Amendment

Thank you for the support from countries around the world



Argentina



Armenia



Australia



Canada



Hong Kong



Italy



Iceland



South Korea



Philippines

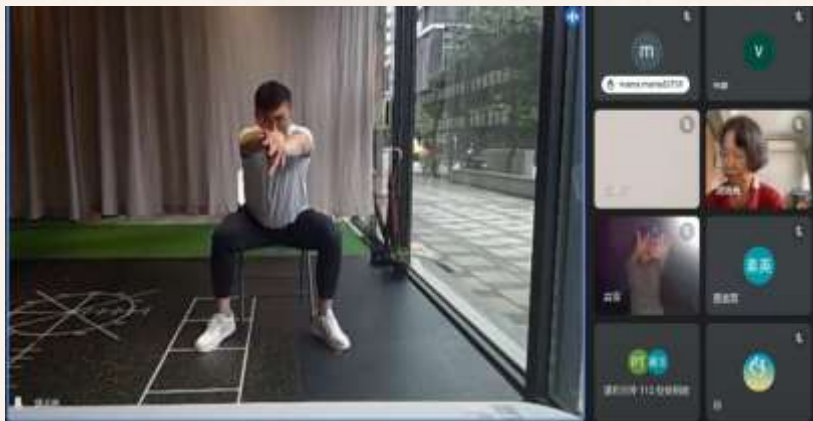


New Zealand

Impacts of COVID-19 On- Clinical Practice

Examples....

Elders Occupational therapy clinics
× wacare- a platform of telehealth



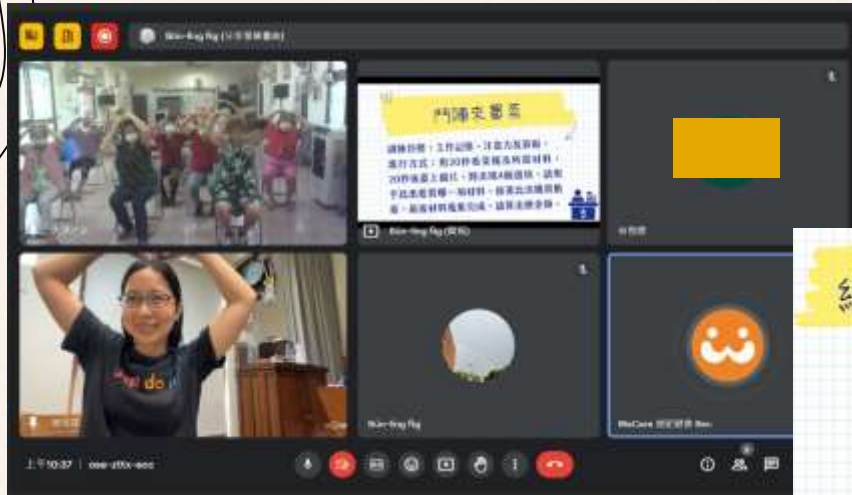
Elderly people learn physical exercise on the platform



Impacts of COVID-19 On- Clinical Practice

Examples....

Elders Occupational therapy clinics
×wacare- a platform of telehealth



Elderly residents living in rural areas
engage in cognitive activities through online platforms.



Impacts of COVID-19 On- Clinical Practice



Starpier Clinics

On-line courses of pediatric occupational therapy



Impact of COVID-19 -Clinical Practice



A news report about the online tele-group for children and parents participating in activities for the Dragon Boat Festival



A conference for tele-services of rehabilitation

The discussion about practical problems, solutions, and the application of tele-services



Impacts of COVID-19 On-Teaching

Tele-teaching

The use of on-line materials in the Micro-Program of Intelligent health, care, and well-being



Impacts of COVID-19 On-Teaching

Tele-teaching

Due to COVID-19, students are adopting a streamed/remote learning approach (Hybrid course approach)



Teachers uploaded teaching videos, and students watch videos by themselves (asynchronous course)



Impact of COVID-19 -Continuing Education Courses

On-line Course (synchronous course)

The registration platform for continuing education courses of the Taiwanese Occupational Therapy Association

- Due to the pandemic, the courses have been divided into in-person and online courses.

關於學會 會員專區 專業教育 能力進階 治療師修法與立場聲明 國際專區 出版

專業教育

養成教育

繼續教育

課程公告及報名

實體課程 In-person

線上課程 On-line

課程日期 課程名稱

2023 10 21	【非發志者-一般】2023年42次學術研討會
2023 10 21	【非發志者-早鳥】2023年42次學術研討會

Impact of COVID-19 -Continuing Education Courses

- Synchronous On-line Course



- Asynchronous On-line Course



- We collaborate with Paramount Online Training and Education Center to upload course videos to the platform
- Students buy the course and learn it on the platform



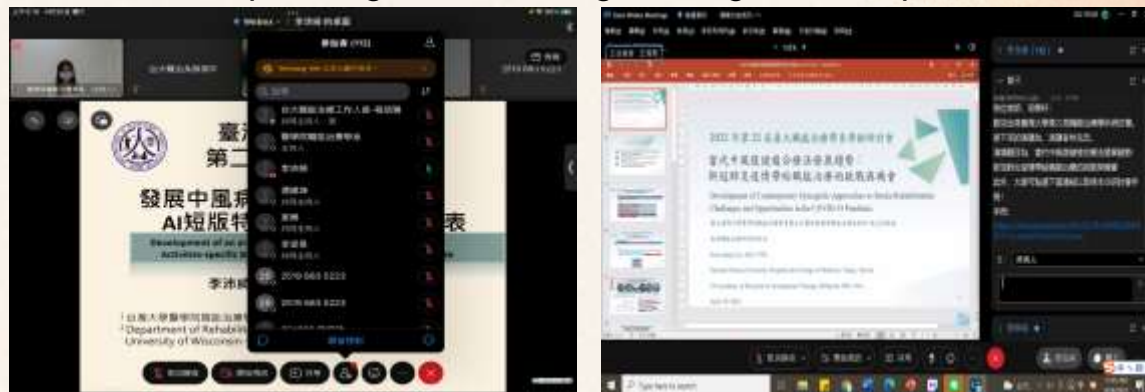
Impact of COVID-19 On -Continuing education courses

On-line Conference

The online conference is held through Webex or Google Meet platform



Participant registration using a Google Form spreadsheet

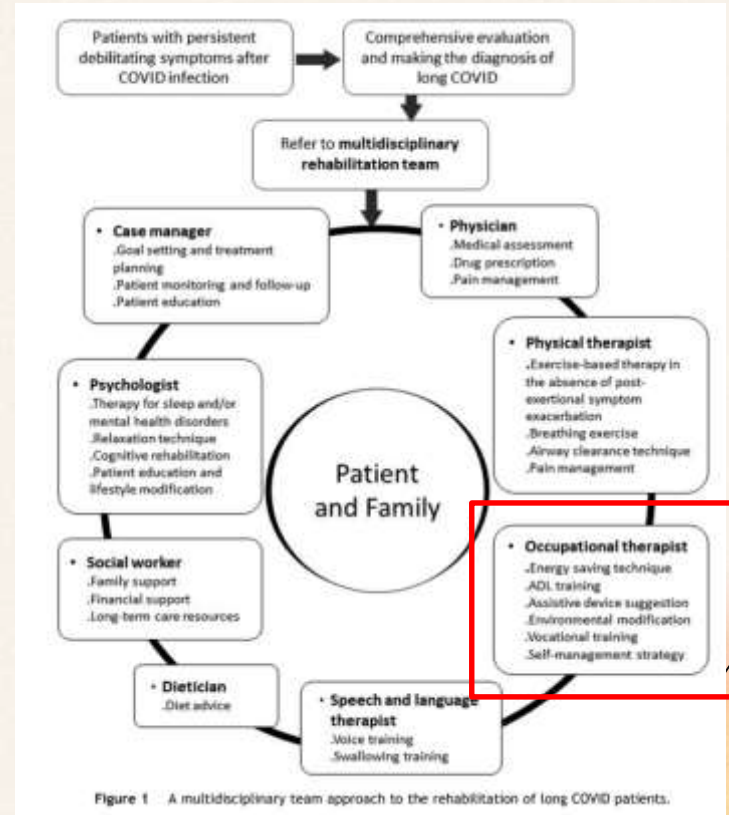


Audience ask questions, interact with speakers from dialogue box

Provision of Occupational Therapy in the Post-COVID Era

- **OT for Long-Covid rehabilitation**

- The Ministry of Health and Welfare in Taiwan initiated a **nationwide Integrated Healthcare Plan** to provide comprehensive care for COVID-19 survivors from December 2021.
- A top-down care infrastructure
- Aims to reduce the physical and psychological consequences of COVID-19 infection
- OT's roles
 - Energy saving, ADL training, environmental suggestions, vocational training....



Provision of Occupational Therapy in the Post-COVID Era

- **Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation**
 - An increasing number of OTs are becoming involved in cardiac rehabilitation
 - Develop a continuing education course on cardiopulmonary rehabilitation through our association
 - A cardiopulmonary center in Kaohsiung Veterans General Hospital

**「急性及亞急性心臟疾患之職能治療」
課程表**

高雄區：03月27日(星期六)成大醫學院職能治療學系畢業教室
(國立成功大學南校區-博悅「小見路」進入校園)
高雄區：06月30日(星期六)台大牙醫大樓職能治療學系431教室
(台北市中正區徐州路17號4樓)

時間	主題	主講人
8:00-8:30	報到	
8:30-10:00	常見心臟疾病症狀、檢查判讀及復健禁忌	謝佩君 醫師 (高雄區) 劉國正 醫師 (高雄區)
10:00-10:10	休息	
10:10-11:40	心臟疾患之職能治療實務	林信宏 職能治療師
11:40-12:20	午餐	
12:20-13:50	居家生活考量及功能促進	林信宏 職能治療師
13:50-14:00	休息	
14:00-15:30	失能狀態簡介-我出問題-評估穩定	曾心怡 物理治療長
15:30-15:40	休息	
15:40-17:10	如果病人有「附贈治療餐」-這治療餐怎麼吃	曾心怡 物理治療長
17:10	結課	

The continuing education course on cardiopulmonary rehabilitation



The cardiopulmonary center in Kaohsiung Veterans General Hospital

Provision of Occupational Therapy in the Post-COVID Era

- Tele-rehabilitation in all clinical settings
 - Currently, tele-rehabilitation is primarily utilized in pediatric and community settings.
 - Expand to include all other settings, including physical and mental health, and community
 - There are no specific regulations in place for OT to conduct tele-rehabilitation
 - Only found in Physicians Act
 - Develop relevant regulations based on the content of tele-rehabilitation services
- Hybrid-teaching course/conferences
 - A hybrid approach may be adopted for future courses
 - Enhance flexibility in teaching and learning
 - To prepare it
 - Establish a smart classroom or video equipment for remote teaching



Hybrid conference with streamed classrooms