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◆RESEARCH ARTICLES

Inter-rater and intra-rater reliability of the measured time in putting on a buttoned shirt

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Putting on a shirt presents difficulty for patients with compromised fine motor skills. The objective of this study is to clarify the inter-rater and intra-rater reliability of the measured time in putting on a buttoned shirt. In our study, the dressing behaviors of 22 healthy participants were recorded by a video camera. For the measurement, three examiners independently observed the taped films using a stopwatch and measured the time from putting a subject's arm into a sleeve to putting buttons in the correct buttonholes. For statistical analyses, Intraclass Correlation Coefficient (ICC) and Bland Altman method were used. ICC (2, 1), ICC (1, 1), and ICC (1, 3) was found to be 0.94, 0.95, and 0.98, respectively. Bland Altman method showed no systematic error. The measurement of the time required for putting on the shirt might guarantee a high inter-rater and intra-rater reliability.

Key words: Putting on, Reliability, Time

Effects of conceptual encoding and contextualization on memory in daily situations

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Recent studies have shown the usefulness of conceptual encoding on memory of words in people with mild dementia, and that the conceptual encoding aided memory

in experimental situations such as word memory training. However, little is known about the effects of memory in daily situations. In the present study, we examined the effect of conceptual encoding on the memory of objects and their location in daily situations. 60 healthy young subjects were divided into the three therapeutic groups: perceptual encoding, writing encoding, and conceptual encoding and contextualization. As a result, the recall of objects and their location differed significantly between the perceptual encoding group and conceptual encoding group and contextualization. There were many people who attested to the effectiveness of conceptual encoding and contextualization. These results suggest that the conceptual encoding and contextualization positively affected memory in daily situations.

Key words: Conceptual encoding, Daily activities, Memory

An examination of urinary incontinence and psychosocial factors affecting self-rated health among older adults in need of support and long-term care at home

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The purpose of this study was to examine urinary incontinence and psychosocial factors as emotional support and loneliness that affect Self-Rated Health (SRH) among frail older adults. The participants were 1,512 older adults who needed support and long-term care at home in Sapporo. About 30 percent of participants responded well to the SRH. The multiple logistic regression analysis revealed that urinary incontinence is not significantly associated with SRH. On the other hand, having emotional support and little loneliness are significantly associated with SRH. In order to promote SRH among frail older adults, it is important that they have an emotional connection with

people around them, and feel little loneliness among family dynamics and the community. We recommend that occupational therapy focus more on the close interpersonal relationship between frail older adults and people such as caregivers or health-care providers.

Key words: Self-rated health, Urinary incontinence, Emotional support, Loneliness, Psychosocial factors

Measuring occupational participation for community-dwelling elderly using a rehabilitation service: Examining the transferability of the Self-completed Occupational Performance Index (SOPI)

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Introduction: The Self-completed Occupational Performance Index (SOPI) was developed to assess the quality of clients' participation in occupational therapy. SOPI has been studied in relation to preventive occupational therapy, but not as it applies to the community-dwelling elderly using rehabilitation services.

Aim: This study examined transferability of the SOPI among community-dwelling elderly using rehabilitation services.

Methods: 217 people (mean; 76.2±9.0) participated in the study, and evaluated the SOPI questionnaire, SF-8 and face sheets. We analyzed the psychometric properties of SOPI according to concurrent validity, structural validity, hypothesis inspection, internal consistency and item properties.

Results: From the results of concurrent validity, structural validity and hypothesis inspection, SOPI correlated positively with SF-8 and the oblique model of the three factors. These results were consistent with preceding studies. However, the reversibility of SOPI may need to be explored, as changes in the item order of SOPI results from internal consistency and IRT.

Conclusion: This study offers evidence that occupational therapists can assess and intervene toward the quality of the occupational participation in community-dwelling

elderly.

Key words: Occupational participation, Self-completed Occupational Performance Index, Community-dwelling elderly persons, Scale, HR-QOL

Coping with belief conflict between patients of convalescent rehabilitation facilities and occupational therapists

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Belief conflict arises from differences in values and viewpoints, which may lead to obstacles to human relations. The purpose of this study is to reveal how patients in convalescent rehabilitation facilities experience belief conflict in relationships with occupational therapists and the ways they cope with it. Based on interviews with 20 patients, data was analyzed using a Structural Constitutive Qualitative Research Method. As a result, belief conflict was configured for 4 major categories, 14 categories and 38 concepts. Belief conflict was not properly dealt with, and in the end the patients experienced “disappointment” throughout “self-reproach” and “conflict”. However these can be relieved using “relativisation of values”.

Key words: Convalescent rehabilitation facilities, Dissolution approach for belief conflict, Patients-occupational therapist relationship

Are there inter-municipality differences in the ratio of individuals with limited activities of daily living?: The JAGES Project

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We investigated inter-municipal differences in the ratio of community-dwelling older adults with limited instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) and relevant factors with the aim of forming a strategy for preventing the need for long-term care through community development. We used the Japan Gerontological Evaluation Study (JAGES) data for 88,370 individuals in 53 municipalities to perform a regional correlation analysis on the ratio of non-independence in any of the 5 IADL items of a gerontology index of competence and relevant factors. The ratio of under-75 older adults with limited IADL ranged from 7.9-23.2% among municipalities, and a 2-17 times difference was seen in many indices including potentially relevant psychosocial indicators. Of particular note, municipalities with a higher participation rate in sports, and interest groups by women had a lower proportion of women with limited IADL, showing a negative relationship. Although multi-faceted studies are needed, these findings suggest that hobbies that are the focus of occupational therapy and community development to promote group activities may help prevent the need for long-term care.

Key words: Care prevention, IADL, Community-dwelling older adults

◆PRACTICAL REPORTS

Effectiveness of the Management Tool for Daily Life Performance in occupational therapy on a patient with ALS

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Using Management Tool for Daily Life Performance (MTDLP), occupational therapy was carried out for an ALS patient with an attached respirator who wanted to take a bath in a normal bathtub which represented a meaningful activity. Incorporating a collaborative team of various professionals, the occupational therapist

examined patient movements, developed assistance methods and adjusted the environment. Through minimum assistance by the team, achievement of actual bathing and satisfaction both improved. Due to utilizing MTDLP, successful collaborative occupational therapy was actualized, which led to improved patient QOL.

Key words: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Management Tool for Daily Life Performance, Quality of life, Team approach to health care

An outreach program to assist school re-entry for a mother and child:

A case study

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Through an outreach program, the researchers intervened on behalf of a student in the first grade of junior high school who was truant due to family dysfunction. As the truancy in this case was influenced by the student's mother, we provided the following support: individual support based on the student's interests, individual support for his mother using Social Skills Training, and support based on occupational activities that can be shared by the student and his mother. As a result, the relationships within the family changed, and the student was able to attend school again. The factors influencing this change were considered to be related to "the psychotherapeutic effect of occupational activities" and "the characteristics of occupations that encourage the formation of relationships". Thus, when intervening for students refusing to attend school, it is beneficial to apply suitable occupational activities and intervene for the entire family, not only the target student.

Key words: Outreach program, Family support, Refusal attend school

Effect of chopsticks operation training on right hemiplegia: Occupational therapy

focusing on the quality of performance

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The present study aimed to improve used of chopsticks on patients who suffered from cerebral infarctions. OTR's interventions focused on the following three points: 1) evaluating patterns of chopsticks use based on Nakata et al's three-point classification (AV type, AI type, and X type), 2) evaluating responses to questionnaires based on Kamakura et al's classification, and 3) Following-up on patient satisfaction with the changes in the chopsticks use. As a result, AI type and AV type improved significantly and partially, respectively. Regarding diet, patients could eat using a combination of both AI type and AV type. Patient satisfaction improved to 75 from 45 points. In addition, in the AV type, using the thumb and ring finger confrontation position proved to be effective.

Key words: Right hemiplegia, Chopsticks, Performance quality, AV type, AI type

Effectiveness of an approach to increase awareness and motivation in patients with higher brain dysfunction

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Using theories of awareness and motivation to elucidate awareness and motivation of a patient with higher brain dysfunction we intervened by establishing operationally the standards based on two theories for accurate assessment of those characteristics: the pyramid model, which classifies awareness into three phases and the

self-determination theory, which classifies extrinsic motivation into four phases. Through our intervention in the awareness and motivation of the patient, the patient developed positive actions for social participation and returned to work. We determined that the change in awareness and motivation was progressive, and that the assessment based on the theories of awareness and motivation is effective at improving quality of support in occupational therapy.

Key words: Higher brain dysfunction, Return to work, Awareness, Motivation

◆SHORT REPORTS

Comparing occupations among different seasons in the homebound elderly: A preliminary study using the Occupational Questionnaire

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The purpose of this study was to compare the seasonal occupations among the homebound elderly. A survey was conducted through personal interviews. Participants were people who were classified as a homebound by national assessment of living functions. Data regarding age, gender, whether living together with their family members or not, daily lifestyle and occupations were gathered using the Occupational Questionnaire. The following three findings were obtained: 1) the occupation was not affected by the change of the season except farming and cleaning the snow, 2) the number of occupations was more in the summer than the winter, and 3) there was higher interest in occupation in the winter than the summer. The results suggest that when considering the number of occupations and interests, occupational therapists should consider regional characteristics.

Key words: Homebound, Community support, Occupational Questionnaire