Vol. 35 No. 1 CONTENTS

■ INFORMATION

The 50th Japanese Occupational Therapy Congress and Expo

♦FOREWORD

Which stage are you?			Shinya Hisano	1
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◆LECTURE

Hints for everybody who tries to write a scientific paper: How to critique and to refer					
to past papers:	3				
Number 1 "From presentation to publication"					
•••••• Waka Murata	4				

◆RESEACH ARTICLES

The demand for and practice of physical rehabilitation at psychiatric inpatient care facilities in Japan · · · · · · · · · · · · · Takumi Hosoi et al 11 Cognitive Remediation Therapy (CRT) using Frontal/Executive Program (FEP) for autism spectrum disorder · · · · · · · · · Maki Miyajima et al 22 Differences in the meaning of occupation between occupational therapists and occupational therapy students from the perspective of social roles: An exploratory study · · · · · · · · · · · · Shingo Yamane et al 32 The relationship between participation and recovery in occupational therapy programs among patients with schizophrenia in an acute psychiatric ward

Exploratory verification of the cause of self-actualization, body functions and structures in dementia patients

•••••• Shintaro Ishikawa et al 59

◆PRACTICAL REPORTS

Communication support for a person with ALS: A case study analysis of characteristics of alternative communication

Yumi Sugimoto et al 67 Improvement in behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia and quality of life in an elderly patient with hip prosthesis dislocation: Japanese Interest Checklist for the Elderly and Elderly version of Leisure Activity Enjoyment Scale

•••••• Fuminori Arita et al	74
A literature review of occupational therapy for persons with dementia:	
41 case studies	
•••••• Kenji Kamijo et al	83
♦ SHORT REPORTS	
The living conditions of patients living alone in flophouses after being discharg	çed
from a rehabilitation hospital: A survey of care managers	
•••••• Hiroaki Hosokawa et al	97
■AUTHORS' GUIDE · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	.01
$\blacksquare EDITOR'S NOTE \qquad \qquad 1$.04

◆RESEACH ARTICLES

The demand for and practice of physical rehabilitation at psychiatric inpatient care facilities in Japan

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An increase in the demand for physical rehabilitation due to the increasing age of inpatients is predicted at psychiatric inpatient care facilities in Japan. However, since the actual conditions related to the demands for, and the practice of, physical rehabilitation are as yet unidentified, an investigation that targeted personnel in charge of occupational therapy in psychiatric wards, from nine hundred thirty-four psychiatric hospitals across the nation, has been carried out. The results of this investigation indicated that out of four hundred thirty-six hospitals who responded to the investigation, four hundred nineteen hospitals (96.1%) stated that introducing physical rehabilitation to their care strategy was indispensable. Also, three hundred fifty-two hospitals (80.7%) have already put physical rehabilitation into practice, with occupational therapists primarily in charge. Moreover, about half of these physical rehabilitation strategies are provided free of charge. This investigation revealed that revising the standards of occupational therapy in psychiatric wards and putting new institutional standards in place are both highly desired by professionals.

Key words: Psychiatric wards, Physical, Rehabilitation

Cognitive Remediation Therapy (CRT) using Frontal/Executive Program (FEP) for autism spectrum disorder

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Objective: To study the effects of the Frontal/Executive Program (FEP), a type of Cognitive Remediation Therapy (CRT), on cognitive function, social function, and self-efficacy in people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Method: The intervention consisted of 44 sessions of FEP over a period of approximately six months. Cognitive function, social function, and self-efficacy were evaluated before and after the intervention.

Results: Improvements were shown based on scales in both the Brief Assessment of Cognition in Schizophrenia-Japanese version composite and in overall informant and interviewer evaluations in the Schizophrenia Cognition Rating Scale-Japanese version, the total Life Assessment Scale for the Mentally III, and Generalized Self-Efficacy Scale. These results suggest that FEP improves outcomes in tests of cognitive function, social function, and self-efficacy.

Conclusion: FEP may be a useful CRT tool for improving cognitive function, social function, and self-efficacy outcomes in patients with ASD. Future studies are needed to determine the duration of effects of FEP.

Key words: Autism spectrum disorder, Cognitive remediation therapy, Frontal lobe, Social function, Self-efficacy

Differences in the meaning of occupation between occupational therapists and occupational therapy students from the perspective of social roles: An exploratory study

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The objective of this study was to investigate the meaning of occupation among students and workers. A questionnaire was conducted on the personal activities and roles of 34 occupational therapy students and 29 occupational therapists. Similarities and differences within an occupational framework were highlighted in an attempt to determine the influence of social roles. The participants listed their own roles and the associated assemblage of activities and then were asked if these were volitional or obligatory occupations. Following this, the survey investigated the influence of the occupations on healthy lifestyles, jibun-rashisa (sense of self) and goals of the occupations. The mixed method approach analysis found that there was no significant difference among the subjects with respect to the degree of influence on healthy lifestyles, and the degree of jibun-rashisa (sense of self). On the other hand, working adults had significantly more goals in desired occupations than students (p<0.05), and have more goal-oriented occupations. Working adults have more diverse roles in a limited time than students. The study suggests that many desired occupations are carried out with goals by organizing one's lifestyle.

Key words: Occupation, Role, Life

The relationship between participation and recovery in occupational therapy programs among patients with schizophrenia in an acute psychiatric ward

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This study investigated the recovery of patients with schizophrenia in an acute stage psychiatric ward. The study involved 30 patients. We analyzed the relationship between participation in occupational therapy and the scores of Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF), Activities of Daily Living (ADL), Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL), and recovery. The status at discharge improved more than that at admission in the GAF, IADL, ADL scores, and with regards to duration of sleep and recovery, high frequency participants in the occupational therapy program had better GAF and IADL scores, and high frequency participants in the group occupational therapy program had better IADL scores. These results suggest that participation in an occupational therapy program is linked to recovery and improvement in schizophrenic patient's daily living skills.

Key words: Acute stage, Schizophrenia, Occupational therapy

Exploratory verification of the cause of self-actualization, body functions and structures in dementia patients

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The aim of this study was to inspect and clarify the structure of the model that proposes that self-actualization influences body functions and structures, and vice versa, in 45 dementia patients from a day care center. Self-actualization, body functions and structures were evaluated, and the potentiality factor was examined using an exploratory factor analysis. Subsequently, a Structural Equation Modeling Analysis was used to inspect the two causal and hypothetical models. The findings revealed high suitability of the self-actualization hypothesis.

Key words: Self-actualization, Body functions and structures, Structural equation modeling analysis

◆PRACTICAL REPORTS

Communication support for a person with ALS: A case study analysis of characteristics of alternative communication

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Alternative interventions are often used for communication disorders of ALS patients. The researchers analyzed and summarized various alternative methods in terms of capability and environment required for each method. In case 1, we analyzed and graded the problems, which arose at the time of intervention. In addition, with case 2, early intervention was possible by reporting appropriate pros and cons of each communication method. Alternative methods for communication disorders are insufficient from the point of view of what one can do with the methods. Analysis from the perspective of environment and capabilities of patients and family are also important.

Key words: ALS, Communication disorder, Alternative methods

Improvement in behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia and quality of life in an elderly patient with hip prosthesis dislocation: Japanese Interest Checklist for the Elderly and Elderly version of Leisure Activity Enjoyment Scale

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An elderly patient with Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia (BPSD) who underwent surgery for hip prosthesis dislocation wished to be discharged. She was asked to complete the Japanese Interest Checklist for the Elderly and Elderly version of Leisure Activity Enjoyment Scale (LAES) which revealed that the most pleasurable activity was farm work. Therefore, agricultural activities were introduced as a part of her occupational therapy regimen, and LAES was used to monitor her subjective well-being during the functional training. As a result, the patient's bed, transfer activities and locomotion improved, along with BPSD, quality of life (QOL), and her subjective well-being. The factors resulting in improvements in BPSD and subjective QOL were participating in agricultural occupations and assessing the patient's interest and enjoyment; the patient's joy in talking about past farm work at the time of functional training; and enjoyment of the past farm work, which positively affected the current farm work, leading to continued enjoyment for the patient.

Key words: Dementia, QOL, Enjoyment, Japanese Interest Checklist for the Elderly, Elderly version of Leisure Activity Enjoyment Scale

A literature review of occupational therapy for persons with dementia: 41 case studies

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The purpose of this study was to analyze the results of occupational therapy case studies on dementia patients in order to consider the way forward for occupational therapy. Case studies regarding occupational therapy for persons with dementia were reviewed and methods of occupational therapy intervention and their effects were analyzed. The literature search identified 41 out of 720 related articles as subjects for analysis. We made abstract tables and summarized contents and effects of occupational therapy intervention. As a result, various activities (especially crafts, recreation, exercise and gymnastics) were implemented in many articles as occupational therapy interventions for clients with dementia. The findings suggest that these activities were used to improve BPSD, and were effective in building familiar relationships and caring for clients when BPSD cases occurred. Successful activities can enhance self-efficacy and life-motivation, and can contribute to prolonging effects of intervention and returning patients to their homes and fulfilling their home lives.

Key words: Dementia, Occupational therapy, Literature research

♦SHORT REPORTS

The living conditions of patients living alone in flophouses after being discharged from a rehabilitation hospital: A survey of care managers

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Care managers supporting disabled individuals who live alone in a flophouse in the Kotobuki district in Japan were surveyed. It was revealed that the flophouse's rooms were characteristically cramped, and the occupants shared kitchens and bathrooms. The occupants received assistance through the national insurance, as well as volunteer support and help which was characteristic to this area of Tokyo. Due to lack of support from family and friends, these life support services maintained the health of and communication with the flophouse occupants. The insufficient rooms and common areas became apparent. In conclusion, those who were discharged to Kotobuki district from rehabilitation hospitals received a variety of support. However, the simple accommodations present obstacles to a health lifestyle.

Key word: Questionnaire, Living environment, Old people, Rehabilitation period