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◆RESEARCH ARTICLES

Development of the record paper for home modifications from occupational therapy

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This study intended to develop a record paper for use in client-centered home modifications. First, we made a trial version of the record paper which included 30 items of a “Family version” and 114 items of a “Therapist version”. Next, we confirmed the validity of the terms in the trial version and made a trial pilot version. Finally, we attempted the trial pilot version at 2 hospitals. Afterwards, based on input from therapists, we revised the record paper and made both a computerized and final version.

Key words: House evaluation, Home modification, Home visit education, Cooperation, Record paper

Alteration and problems of occupational therapy for psychiatric reform in Japan

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To clarify both alteration and problems of occupational therapy programs for psychiatric reform in Japan, a questionnaire was carried out at 32 participating

hospitals. General hospitals with less than 100 beds for patients with mental health concerns were found to have acute-phase occupational therapy programs, while private psychiatric hospitals with more than 100 beds offered primarily recreational programs for large groups of long-term patients. The number of acute-phase occupational therapy programs and discharge promotion programs was less in the latter type of hospital. In addition, there was no system in place for occupational therapists to discuss rehabilitation programs with other professionals in more than half of the facilities. About 80% of the occupational therapists reported these problems, but no changes have yet been implemented, possibly due to problems of profitability in the private hospitals, remuneration for occupational therapy, hospital structures and systems, the recognition and skills of occupational therapists, and cooperation with other professionals.

Key words: Psychiatric occupational therapy, Program, Clinical specialization

Differences in hazard perception among stroke patients, and older and younger drivers

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We studied the differences of hazard perception ability among stroke, older, and younger drivers. A hazard perception task was administered in which subjects were instructed to detect hazardous events while watching a driving scenario. The number of detections, response latency, and response rate were collected, as well as the elapsed time from the Trail Making Test (TMT). Results showed that fourteen hazardous

events were reported, and that stroke drivers showed the lowest number of detections, and the longest response latency. Regarding response rates, older drivers showed the highest response rate in ten out of fourteen hazardous events. Younger drivers showed shortest elapsed time of TMT. Results indicate that hazard perception ability is affected by information processing speed as well as driving experience.

Key words: Vehicle driving, Hazard perception ability, Stroke

Effects of computer-based working memory training which is tailor-made for personal ability and interest: Improvement of perseveration in a patient with schizophrenia

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We developed a computer-based working memory training paradigm, in which a patient can simulate everyday life events. We introduced this task to a patient with schizophrenia who exhibited perseverated responses. Upon introducing the training task, the patient's perseverated responses were markedly reduced and working memory, motor responses, and Tower of London performances in BACS-J were also improved, along with the patient's motivation and mental condition. One year after introducing the task, we repeated the task and almost the same effects were observed. In the present training task, we can adjust both the task materials and difficulty based on each patient's interest and capability. These task features may provide positive effects in the patient's mental condition and contribute to improved cognitive and motivational capacity.

Key words: Schizophrenia, Prefrontal cortex, Rehabilitation, Computer, Tailor-made

Prediction of toilet transfer and walking ability using Functional Reach for stroke patients

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The purpose of this study is to determine the clinical usefulness of Functional Reach (FR) to predict toilet transfer and walking ability, both being important factors for hospital-to-home discharge. The study population comprised 21 stroke patients admitted to the rehabilitation ward of our hospital. We evaluated the patients using FR at the time of admission, one month after the first evaluation, and two months later. According to ADL at discharge to home, the patients were divided into three groups; walking independence group, toilet transfer independence group and toilet transfer non-independence group. We also examined the cutoff value of FR to indicate toilet transfer ability and walking ability, using a Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve. In conclusion, FR=5 cm or more at one month after the first evaluation is useful to predict independence in toilet transfer, and FR=15 cm or more is useful to predict independence in walking.

Key words: Functional Reach, Stroke, Prognosis, Transfer ability, Walking ability

Association of evaluation of dual tasks in the sitting position and toileting ability among stroke patients

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The purpose of this study was to examine the association between the motor and cognitive performances during dual tasks in the sitting position by evaluating the

toileting ability among stroke patients. This study included 55 stroke patients from Showa University Fujigaoka Rehabilitation Hospital. The performances during the dual tasks were evaluated by observing whether or not the participants performed the task with comfortable speed for 30 seconds in the sitting position; the evaluation was done using a simple calculation. Associations among variables were statistically evaluated, and the results showed that the motor performance tended to decrease during the dual tasks as compared to a single task; however, no change was noted in the cognitive performance. The evaluation of dual tasks was based on the toileting ability of the patient, and evaluation of dual tasks was more useful than that of functional balance. However, future studies assessing the evaluation method is necessary.

Key words: Stroke, Sitting position, Toileting, Dual task

◆PRACTICAL REPORTS

Achieving self-acceptance through travel and experience: A case study

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An elderly male with left hemiplegia following cerebral hemorrhage had compromised activity and motivation, and experienced pain and lack of sleep. Activity and motivation were increased by setting a goal to “attend the Alumni Association’s meeting”. Gradually, he has been able to accept his condition by working hard in occupational therapy to achieve his goal and by redeeming his self-worth and re-connecting with his wife more intimately through travel. It is important that the occupational therapist understand the conditions of the clients and provide services according to their preferences. To positively influence the clients’ attitudes, it is important to support them in exploring their self-worth for improving their quality of life.

Key words: Travel, Accept, Goal, Wish, Stroke

Toward the development of parent training of children with developmental disabilities in the community: Suggestions from the literature review

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Parent training (PT) is known to support children with developmental disabilities and their parents. To advance PT in the community, we analyzed practical reports dealing with PT over the past 10 years. Modification of the contents of the standardized programs in each region and its function was carried out. In order to increase practice in locations shorter programs that emphasize praise have been attracting more attention than the standard program (ten-fold increase), and has had positive results in 6-8 sessions. Although follow up studies indicate continued success, effective PT will require verification of such studies.

Key words: Developmental disabilities, Family support, Developmental support, Remedial care

Handwriting intervention for preschool children with developmental disorders

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We provided occupational therapy programs to improve the handwriting skills for two children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Case A did not know how to hold

a pencil properly, and the visually presented positions of three fingers on a pencil enabled him to understand the appropriate grip. In addition, visual and auditory cues informed him when to start and stop while drawing a single circle. Case B lacked ability to adequately move fingers separately. This retardation might affect his ability to improve fine motor movement which is important for writing and drawing. We gave practice moving his hands and fingers and also used an assistive tool. After the intervention, he could manage to hold a pen with the appropriate force and to move his distal fingers more efficiently. The results suggest that it is important to consider cognitive features of ASD and the level of motor development of their hands and fingers throughout therapy for handwriting skills of children with ASD.

Key words: Autistic spectrum disorder, Handwriting, Drawing, Preschool, Case study

**Efficacy of Occupation-Based Practice 2.0 in targeting developmental disabilities:
Interventions that focus on occupational dysfunction and belief conflict of mothers' childcare**

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Occupation-Based Practice 2.0 (OBP 2.0) is a methodology that assesses and intervenes in the classification of occupational dysfunction while overcoming belief conflict. This study examined the usefulness of OBP 2.0 in targeting developmental disabilities. We intervened with the OBP 2.0 in the mother of a child with cerebral palsy, resulting in improvement of the mother's occupational dysfunctions and belief conflicts, as well as the self-efficacy as a mother and mitigation of childcare burden. Thus, assessment and intervention in the classification of occupational dysfunction and the belief conflict may be useful in formation of adaptive childcare, and the OBP 2.0 showed promise in targeting developmental disabilities.

Key words: Family support, Children with disabilities, Occupation-Based Practice

2.0, Occupational dysfunction, Dissolution approach for belief conflicts

◆SHORT REPORTS

Identity and attitudes toward death among university rehabilitation students

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The purpose of this study was to evaluate the relationship between identity and attitudes toward death among rehabilitation university students. A total of 236 students answered Shimoyama's Identity Scale and Hirai's Death Attitudes Inventory. Significant weak negative correlations were found between Basic identity and Death anxiety, as well as between Basic identity and Death concern for both male and female students. A significant moderate positive correlation was found between Established identity and Life purpose, and a significant weak positive correlation was found between Basic identity and Life purpose for both male and female students. Furthermore, significant weak negative correlations were found between Established identity and Death relief, as well as for Basic identity and Death relief for female students. Unlike prior research regarding general students, only weak negative correlations were found between Basic identity and Death anxiety. This study revealed specific characteristics in university students studying rehabilitation.

Key words: Identity, Attitudes toward death, Student