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◆GENERAL REMARKS

Comparing psychiatric occupational therapy practices in France and Britain with those of Japan

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In this article, we present an overview of current French and British occupational therapy (OT) in the area of psychiatry. The aim is also to compare occupational therapy in both countries with occupational therapy in Japan. To do so, I discuss present OT issues in Japan. In France, regional medical treatment is promoted by the sectoral system, which aims to continue said treatment. Similarly in Britain, the National Health Service promotes regional medical treatment. In both countries, occupational therapists attach importance to not only clinical practice, but also to research and education. Moreover, therapists emphasize developing evidence-based medicine in practical occupational therapy. It is noteworthy for Japanese occupational therapists that occupational therapists in both countries place importance on practical perspectives of occupational therapy.

Key words: Occupational therapy, Mental disorders, International exchange, Psychiatric occupational therapy

◆RESEARCH ARTICLES

Reviewing participation measurements and associated features in Japan from the perspective of frequency of use

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No reports have been published summarizing participation measures in Japan. The aim of this study was to identify and clarify the participation measuring tools used in Japanese clinical studies. To survey the features of frequently used participation measures, we identified the ICF Activities and Participation domains, and criticized the psychometric properties of the identified participation measures. We identified 27 different participation measures. The 6 most frequently used measures were the Occupational self-assessment (OSAII), own surveys, the multidimensional 13-item index of competence (TMIG), the MOS 36-Item Short-Form Health Survey (SF-36v2), the Model of human occupation screening tool (MOHOST), and ICF. This review revealed the variety, features, problems and issues related to participation measures in Japan, and thus aimed to inform the selection of the most appropriate participation measures.

Key words: Participation, Activity, Measure, Review

A cross-sectional study on the social and daily life perception of COPD patients at home

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The purpose of this study is to clarify the relationship between the social life and the subjective daily life perceptions of patients with COPD at home. Social and daily life perceptions were evaluated with the Frenchay Activities Index (FAI) and the Occupational Questionnaire (OQ), and the relationships between the 2 aspects were determined through correlating the FAI and OQ scores. The FAI scores were expected to be no different from those of healthy people of the same age. On the other hand, the activities recognized as work, play, and rest were perceived to be negative and

unsatisfactory. A positive correlation was observed between FAI and OQ scores. In particular, those who had stronger interests in their lives were expected to be living a more fulfilling social life. The results indicate that the COPD patients' perceptions of their living difficulties were greater than the reality.

Key words: Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), Lives at home, The social life situation, Daily life perception, Cross-sectional study

A qualitative study of activities outside the home among mothers of children with movement disorders

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The objectives of this study were to: (1) explore problems, needs and coping strategies regarding activities outside the home, and (2) discuss how Occupational Therapists (OT) support social participation of mothers of children with movement disorders. Fifteen mothers of children 2-16 years old with movement disorders participated in this study. Most of the mothers had physical and psychological childcare burdens outside the home. These problems occurred regardless of children's or mothers' age, severity of disabilities, or family background. To solve these problems, the mothers used strategies such as going out with their children less and coping effectively by "Psychological self-solving". Mothers who were satisfied with support from officials, families, and relatives tended to have better psychological self-solving skills. Furthermore, the mothers required barrier free environments, and flexible and substantial respite services. OT can solve these problems by collaborating with local governments to promote barrier free environments and enhancing the quality of respite services by educating staff. Furthermore, OT's advice was useful to enhance mothers' psychological self-solving skills.

Key words: Movement disorders, Family support, Activities outside the home, Social participation, Mothers

Rethinking the clinical significance of the Catherine Bergego Scale in the assessment of unilateral neglect:

Correlating unilateral neglect in behavioral assessment and neuropsychological tests

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The objective of this retrospective study was to rethink the clinical significance of the Catherine Bergego Scale (CBS), to correlate behavioral assessments and a neuropsychological test battery consisting of paper-and-pencil tests of unilateral neglect (UN), and to determine the factors that contribute to the discrepancy between the two UN tests in right-hemisphere stroke patients. We assessed 44 right-hemisphere stroke patients with unilateral neglect; the Catherine Bergego Scale (CBS) and neuropsychological tests battery consisting of 5 paper-and-pencil tests were used to evaluate neglect in spontaneous behavior in natural daily activities. As a result, 29.5% of patients presented discrepancies of UN between behavioral assessments and paper-and-pencil tests. The UN discrepancy patients showed personal and extra-personal neglect, semi-independent distinct regions of space, and compensatory ability to overcome UN by cognitive function. These were factors that contributed to a discrepancy of UN between behavioral assessments and paper-and-pencil tests. In conclusion, we propose that clinicians use not only paper-and-pencil tests but also behavioral assessments in natural daily activities by using CBS in the assessment of UN patients.

Key words: Unilateral spatial neglect, Activities of daily living, Behavioral assessment, Stroke, Right hemisphere

Changes in mother-infant recognition during training sessions for parents

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The purpose of this study was to measure the effectiveness of using various training and behavioral checklists with mothers to measure changes in mother-child relationships. 15 mothers participated in parent training sessions. The results demonstrate, through COPM, that parent-child satisfaction in all target behaviors was observed. We believe that the study demonstrates how training sessions can improve child behavior, as well as parent-child perceptions, as a result of the training sessions. Finally, the study found that the use of the mothers' notes on the training, in subsequent discussion forms, also led to improvement in parent-child relations.

Key words: Mother guidance, Developmental disability, Reflection

Factors affecting the use of disposable diapers during daytime among patients in an integrated community care ward

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The objectives of this study were to investigate factors affecting the use of disposable diapers during daytime among patients in an integrated community care ward, and their relationship with ADL and discharge destination. We investigated various factors upon admission, including demographic data, physical restraints, FIM, Vitality Index, Fall Risk Index, the Rapid Dementia Screening Test, and Short Physical Performance Battery (SPPB). FIM, SPPB and physical restraints were found to be significant contributing factors promoting disposable diapers. The disposable diaper group had lower scores than the non-disposable diaper group on FIM and discharge to

home. In conclusion, physical restraints are factors influencing the use of disposable diapers during daytime. Practices which reduce physical restraints will be needed for non-disposable diapers during daytime.

Keys words: Integrated community care ward, Disposable diapers, FIM, ADL, Discharge destination

◆PRACTICAL REPORTS

Returning home from a psychiatric acute ward: Occupational therapy for a housewife with depression

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This report describes an occupational therapy case of a housewife who became depressed due to being overly concerned for her family. In this intervention, I conducted psychoeducation of depression, introduced a self-monitoring sheet, improved understanding of the disease, and intervened for the reacquisition of housewife role through housekeeping training. Furthermore, I prepared a crisis plan to prevent the recurrence of depression, and repeatedly practiced with her using SST to deal with neighboring residents. As a result, she could return home.

Key words: Depression, Psychiatric occupational therapy, Returning home

Group meetings between an occupational therapist and special support teachers: A case study

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Teachers working with special needs students often require the advice and support of an occupational therapist (OT) when they experience particular difficulties in supporting their students. However, the limited availability of OT resources makes it challenging to satisfy this requirement. This research involved group meetings between teachers and an OT using multiple case studies to provide the necessary OT resources for teachers, and examined the process of determining the direction of the support needed by the students through group meetings. Results indicate that there were some cases where direction could be ascertained, specifically where we could be explicit about evaluating a particular student, understanding student problems, instituting supporting goals, and proposing ways to solve students' problems. The case study approach improved support for teachers and their students, and increased access to intervention.

Key words: Special support school, Cooperation, Case study, Occupational therapist

Normalization of the use of memory notebooks in the social life and returning to work among memory-impaired people

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Memory impairment is a common cognitive disorder with the recovery of cognitive function being the main goal of treatment. In structured environments such as hospitals and care facilities, a memory notebook (MN) is sometimes used to compensate for memory impairment; however, a MN is seldom used once the patient returns home, which can cause difficulties in their social life. To facilitate the use of a MN in the social lives of patients in cases of basal forebrain amnesia, we used both errorless and trial and error learning for specific purposes, resulting in the

patients successfully returning to work. Intervention by errorless learning may be effective in the early stages of incorporating auxiliary tools where patients are required to learn how to use a MN and habituate themselves to carry the tools with them. Furthermore, results indicate that intervention by trial and error learning is effective in enhancing the awareness of higher brain functional disorders and normalizing the use of a MN in home and work environments.

Key words: Memory disorder, Memory notebook, Awareness of higher brain functional disorder, Errorless learning, Trial and error learning

Ward-based constraint-induced movement therapy for sub-acute stroke patients: A case series study

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We report on a trial of ward-based constraint-induced movement therapy (CIMT) protocol with a division of labor between occupational therapists and nurses for stroke patients with hemiparetic arms in Kaifukuki Rehabilitation Ward. Six subacute stroke patients with hemiparetic arms received the daily ward-based 40-minute CIMT training for 10 consecutive weeks. We assessed the arm function in pre- and post-intervention using both the Fugl-Meyer Assessment (FMA) and Motor Activity Log (MAL). Both the FMA and MAL scales showed significant improvement in pre- and post-intervention. The ward-based CIMT might be an effective approach for paretic arms in subacute stroke patients.

Key words: Kaifukuki Rehabilitation Ward, Arm function, Team approach, Constraint-induced movement therapy, MAL

Use of the pneumatic-type dynamic traction and flexion splint artificial MP joints after the surgical release of extension contracture: A case study of two patients

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Collateral ligament shortening causes extension contractures of the metacarpophalangeal (MCP) joint, and dynamic flexion splinting (DFS) has been widely used to treat these contractures. However, extension contractures associated with bent MCP joints are not only ineffectively treated using DFS, the treatment may also lead to articular cartilage damage. We developed a novel pneumatic-type dynamic traction and flexion (DTF) splint using an artificial pneumatic muscle and MCP joints and applied it in two cases one day after undergoing surgically released extension contractures. The ROM of the DTF post-operative patients was compared with that of Continuous Passive Motion (CPM) therapy only during exercise and during self-training. The results indicate that as for DTF, the ROM of the DTF patients was equal to or exceeded that of the patients who used only CPM. Furthermore, DTF orthosis reduced the time needed to improve the ROM more than other methods. The results indicate that DTF is a useful splint to improve ROM after surgery.

Key words: Contracture, Range of motion, Splint, Hand therapy

◆SHORT REPORT

Evaluation of trunk function while dressing:

The three-axis accelerometer tool

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The three-axis accelerometer can obtain data of special physical motions, and has

been adopted by the researchers to evaluate the temporal postural control of trunk functions while dressing. This study aimed to determine the efficacy of using two three-axis accelerometers placed on subjects' upper and lower trunk for trunk evaluation while dressing in two positions: the normal sitting position and an imbalanced hemiplegic position. Results confirm a righting reflex of the trunk and a difference between normal and abnormal patterns with assumed hemiplegia when dressing. We suggest that postural control can be estimated using the discrepancy in data extracted by the two three-axis accelerometers. Thus, the data from two three-axis accelerometers can be a useful evaluation tool for measuring the temporal postural control of trunk functions.

Key words: Dressing, Assessment method, Three-axis accelerometer