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**Specialty Edition: Emotional and Psycho-Social Wellbeing**





# The Indian Journal of Occupational Therapy

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The official language of the Journal is American (US) English.

IJOT welcomes submissions of original scientific research papers, review papers, case reports, preliminary articles, editorials, and specialist issue editorials, on all aspects of occupational therapy. It also includes publication of book reviews & letters to the editor.

The conference (OTICON) abstracts (of oral and e-poster: research papers only), will be published every year in IJOT - Issue 2: April-June.

IJOT - Issue 4: October-December will be the specialty edition every year based on specialty theme pre-decided by the editorial board. This Issue will also include guest editorial solicited to an experienced researcher in the pre-decided theme.

IJOT welcomes contributions/announcements on news, academic events and information related to occupational therapy, allied healthcare and rehabilitative aspects, from all over the world.

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## EDITORIAL

### Occupational Therapy Practice in Mental Health

Lakshmanan Sethuraman, Punita V. Solanki, Anil K. Srivastava

113

## GUEST EDITORIAL

### Guest Editorial: Emotional and Psychosocial Well-Being: Challenges in Contemporary Occupational Therapy in Mental Health Practice

Supat Chupradit, Senthil Vadivel Vadivu

115

## ORIGINAL ARTICLES

### Impact of Corona Virus Disease-2019 on Occupational Therapy Practice in India: An Online National Survey

Karthik Mani

117

### Perception of Psychiatrists on Occupational Therapy Practice in Mental Health: A Qualitative Study

Sadichha Paresh Kamat, Pooja Vivek Vajaratkar

125

### Effect of Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Occupational Therapy Program in Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: An Interventional Study

Sushant D. Sarang, Arthi G. Karnam, Bhakti A. Vanmali, Pallavi R. Phulpagar

132

### Analysis of Burden on Family Caregivers of Hospitalized Patients with Psychiatric Illness: An Observational, Analytical, Cross-Sectional Study

Pratibha M. Vaidya, Heena N. Patel

139

### Exploring Spirituality and its Use as a Domain of Practice among Indian Occupational Therapists: A Qualitative Study

Pooja Vivek Vajaratkar, Amitabh Kishor Dwivedi

144

## CASE REPORT

### Effect of Tele-Occupational Therapy on Self-Determined Routine Task Performances in a Young Adult with Autism, Intellectual Disability, and Obsessive–Compulsive Disorder: A Case Report

Aishwarya Swaminathan, Anuradha Venkatesh Pai

151

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

155

## THE DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT IN REHABILITATION COUNCIL OF INDIA (RCI) ACT 1992

The addition of occupational therapy (OT) categories in the proposed amendment act of RCI, which seems to be irrelevant, unnecessary and uncalled for, has been resented by the All India Occupational Therapists' Association (AIOTA). The AIOTA submitted strong representation with request to delete the clauses in Schedule 1-xxi & 2-vii of the draft proposal, in respect to the inclusion of the profession of occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistants under the purview of RCI. The reasons being that occupational therapists and physiotherapists were not considered as rehabilitation professionals in the light of **Notification no. 674 Dated 13-10-98 duly notified in Gazette of India dated 25 June 1999**, which was after a written petition by the AIOTA in Honorable High Court, New Delhi.

## THE DRAFT PROPOSAL FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF DISABILITY STUDIES & REHABILITATION SCIENCES BILL 2021

The AIOTA appreciated the move to have more OT colleges imparting BOT, MOT and PhD. programs in the proposed 'University of Disability Studies & Rehabilitation Sciences Bill 2021, introduced recently by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. It aims for developing human resources for their treatment and effective rehabilitation and wellbeing of the disabled. This provision is likely to create opportunities for more occupational therapy colleges thereby enhancing human resource of qualified occupational therapists practicing to offer specialised services to the disabled population of the country. However the shortcomings of the Bill have been addressed in the AIOTA representation like - the standards of OT courses should come under the ambit of the proposed National Allied and Health Care Commission. Further, the courses should also be endorsed by the Academic Council of Occupational Therapy (ACOT), MOT in different speciality areas of OT, as are available in many of the universities in India and overseas and one member from national association (AIOTA) should also be included in the Proposed court to review and advise on the policies and programs of the university in respect to the OT.

## WFOT COUNCIL MEETING

COVID-19 pandemic continues to escalate in many parts of the world. The World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) council meeting which was to be held in August, 2020 will now be held online on the 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2021. Election for new WFOT executive management team will also be held.

## WFOT PRESIDENT MARILYN PATTISON TO DELIVER KEY NOTE ADDRESS IN OTICON'2021

The WFOT President, Marilyn Pattison, has very kindly accepted the request to deliver Key Note Address in OTICON'2021. Ritchard Ledgerd, WFOT Executive Director, Former President & now Editor, WFOT Bulletin, Kit Sinclair, eminent ergonomist Karen Jacobs, Dimitrios Mylonadis, Denise Donica, Dr. Nathan Vytialingam and many more national and international faculties of repute have also consented to deliver guest talks in the conference.

It will be for the first-time that the AIOTA conference will be held virtually. The 58<sup>th</sup> annual national conference of the AIOTA is being organized as e-Conference on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 with national and international faculties and participation. The theme of the conference chosen is 'Responding to Challenges in Pandemic: Exploring New Horizons in Occupational Therapy'. The conference will also have challenging scope of students' exciting cultural events.

**Bharati Kirti Patel Youth Talent Award:** for Best Scientific Paper is also being introduced for best research paper by young OT graduates with not more than 5 years of experience. Dean ACOT Dr. Jyothika N. Bijlani is the organizing secretary and Executive Editor, IJOT Dr. Lakshmanan Sethuraman is chairman scientific program of OTICON'2021.

## E-SCIENTIA ON 'REIMAGINE DOING: INNOVATIONS IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY'

To commemorate the World OT Day (27<sup>th</sup> October) and the AIOTA's OTIndia Month-2020 (27<sup>th</sup> October to 26<sup>th</sup> November), Uttar Pradesh Branch of the AIOTA & ACOT in collaboration with Santosh OT College, Santosh University, Ghaziabad, successfully organized E-Scientia on 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2020. It was attended by 915 participants from OT, medical and allied & healthcare areas.

The theme of this e-event was '**Reimagine Doing: Innovations in Occupational Therapy**'. Dr. Nathan Vytialingam (Malaysia), Dr. Harsh Vardhan (New Zealand), Dr. Shovan Saha (Manipal), Dr. Raviraj Shetty, Dr. Manjusha Vagal, Dr. Priya Tawde & Dr. Pratibha Vaidya (Mumbai), Dr. Manish Samnani (Gurugram) and Dr. Neeraj Mishra (Davangere) were the resource faculties on various areas of post pandemic OT intervention. Dr. Jyothika N. Bijlani-Dean ACOT was principal coordinator and Dr. Shivani Bhardwaj, Assistant Professor, Santosh OT College; Ghaziabad was the organizing convener of E-Scientia. President AIOTA Dr. Anil K. Srivastava delivered inaugural address.



## RADIO DRAMA ON INTERNET ADDICTION BY MAHE MANIPAL

Department of Occupational Therapy, MCHP, MAHE, Manipal organized radio dramas related to Internet Addiction on FM Manipal 90.4. This program aimed to sensitize people about the consequences of different psychosocial issues due to internet addiction. The first Radio Drama titled “Escape to Explore”- was aired on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019, on the occasion of World Mental Health day. The project aimed at creating awareness on issues faced by adolescents due to overuse of internet and ways to deal with the resulting psychosocial issues. The second radio drama on Internet Addiction “Are you ready for it?” was aired on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2019, on the occasion of World Occupational Therapy Day, 2019.

## NEW OT COLLEGES IN THE STATE OF KERALA

Two new occupational therapy colleges imparting BOT courses are incepted in the State of Kerala. These courses are approved by the Government for the following institutions-

1. National Institute of Speech and Hearing (NISH) in Thiruvananthapuram
2. National Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (NIPMR) in Iringalakuda.

<https://lbscentre.in/profparamdegree2020/>

These will be the first OT programs in the State of Kerala. It could be made possible due to sincere and sustained hard work by Honorary Secretary, AIOTA Dr. Joseph Sunny and the members of Kerala Branch of the AIOTA.

## AIOTA CERTIFICATE OF ERGONOMIC SUITABILITY

The AIOTA certificate of ergonomic suitability has been provided recently after successfully completing the laid own process and inspection to the specified products of the following manufacturing industries:

1. **Saryu Seating Co.,** Manesar, Haryana: Seating System (Auditorium and Multiplex Chairs)
2. **Methodex Systems Pvt. Ltd,** Indore, Madhya Pradesh: Education Furniture Range (Classroom and Institutional Furniture)

## WEBINARS 2020

### ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

**18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> September:** Web workshop on “Bayley 4” was organized by Pearson in collaboration with AIOTA. 34 participants attended.

**2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> October:** Virtual workshop on ‘Research Methods & Scientific Writing’ was organized by IJOT & ACOT. The resource persons were: Dr. Kamal N. Arya (New Delhi), Dr. Suresh Kumar K, (Hyderabad), Dr. Ganpathy Sankar (Chennai), Dr. Lakshmanan Sethuraman (Bangalore) & Dr. Christopher Amalraj, Bio Statistician (Saudi Arabia). It was attended by 25 participants.

### S.R.M. COLLEGE OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

SRM College of Occupational Therapy, Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences Kattankulathur, conducted webinar series for two months for students and professionals around the world. This webinar series was organized by the occupational therapy education unit under the initiative of Dean, Dr. U. Ganapathy Sankar. These webinars continued regularly for nearly 2 months on every weekend with an overall 5 webinar series, each lasting for 2-3 hours. It began on 31<sup>st</sup> October and ended on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2020.

Webinar 1: ‘A brief perspective of Occupational Therapy in forensic psychiatry’ by Dr. Yuvaraj

Webinar 2: ‘Occupational Therapist in acute and emergency care’ by Ms. Inbadurai Palanisami from Dubai

Webinar 3: ‘Exploring the role of Occupational Therapy in the ICU setting’ by Dr. Cornelli Diwakar, Ireland

Webinar 4: ‘Handling parents with special children’ – OT perspectives by Faculty from SRM

Webinar 5: ‘Effect of Motor Relearning Programme in Stroke Rehabilitation’ by Ms. Shanta Pandian, New Delhi.

Webinar on ‘Bring Back Play’: Webinar on ‘Bring Back Play’ was organized on the benefits of play for development of child by Catholic Medical Guild of St. Luke’s, Mumbai, with resource occupational therapists Dr. Odette Gomes and Dr. Aarti Pereira on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2020.

### BIHAR BRANCH OF AIOTA

**6<sup>th</sup> May, 2020:** ‘E-learning course on Therapeutic Management in COVID-19’ by Dr. Neeraj Mishra, MOT (Ped)

**29<sup>th</sup> November, 2020:** ‘Prevention and Treatment of Heart Disease’ by Dr. Brajesh K. Mishra, Cardiologist & Principal consultant Max Super Hospital, Saket, Delhi

### INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER OF THE AIOTA

**10<sup>th</sup> October, 2020:** ‘Evidence Based Practice’ by Dr. Karthik Mani, Assistant Professor at University of Texas Medical Branch, USA

**12<sup>th</sup> December, 2020:** ‘Healthcare Leadership and Strategic Advocacy’ by Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Program Manager, Ministry of Health, New Zealand

## AIOTA's COVID WARRIORS APPRECIATION AWARD

The AIOTA gratefully acknowledges the efforts of all occupational therapy warriors who have rendered their expertise and services for the COVID pandemic, in their hospitals and areas. The dedication and gesture of each one of them is extraordinary and deserves appreciation and recognition. AIOTA has therefore decided to felicitate all occupational therapy Covid Warriors with 'AIOTA's Covid Warriors Appreciation Award' during the upcoming OTICON'2021 as a small token of appreciation to their exemplary courage and service to mankind. To register may write to [oticon2021@gmail.com](mailto:oticon2021@gmail.com) for more details.

## MEMBERS ACHIEVEMENTS

**Dr. Shashi Oberai:** Ex-Officio Executive Official of AIOTA successfully completed 6 months WHO-2020 project to develop a Package of 'Rehabilitation Interventions for Ischemic Heart Disease' which was concluded in 27th October, 2020. She represented WFOT for this project of WHO.

**Dr. Arun Kumar:** EC Member, AIOTA and Principal Saveetha College of Occupational Therapy, Chennai received Principal of the Year Award by Institute of Scholars Award 2020.

**Dr. Pankaj Bajpai:** EC Member, AIOTA and formerly officiating Director at National Institute of Locomotor Disabilities, Kolkata was invited as Principal Speaker in an E-Seminar on Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill-2016. The seminar was jointly organized by Composite Rehabilitation Centers Lucknow and Gorakhpur on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

**Dr. Neeraj Mishra:** Assistant Professor, Department of Occupational Therapy, Composite Regional Centre, Davangere, Karnataka and formerly EC Member AIOTA successfully completed 4 weeks 'Ergonomics Workplace Assessment Course' of NPTEL Online Certification in October, 2020. It was convened by Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati.

**Dr. M. Ramakrishnan:** Occupational Therapist at JIPMER Hospital Pondicherry was invited to present the Oral Paper in the 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Jubilee Anniversary Convention, organized by The Philippines Academy of Occupational Therapists (PAOT), Inc., at Makati city, Manila, Philippines. He got the Best Abstract Award.

**Dr. Anil K. Srivastava:** President AIOTA & Director Rehabcare, Lucknow, His paper titled 'Covid-19 Pandemic: The All India Occupational Therapists' Association's Response to the Challenges', is published in World Federation of Occupational Therapists Bulletin, Year 2020, Volume 76 Issue 2. Dr. Neeraj Mishra and Dr. Lakshmanan S. are the co-authors.

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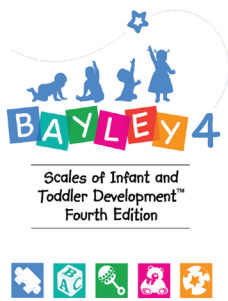
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**Age Range:**  
16 days to 42 months



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