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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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OT Day Contest

Call for Images and Videos

Occupational Therapy Professionals and students are requested to send pictures or videos related to the profession on or before 15th October 2021 to **otday21@gmail.com**. Selected Pictures will be shared on AIOTA's Website and social media.

Guidelines: Only one entry per person is allowed. Pictures /videos/reels must be titled (captioned) which should be of only one line. Landscape view recording is compulsory. Video/reels of more than 30 seconds & without one line caption will not be accepted. Student should send the entries only after seeking permission from HOD/Principal/ Incharge of the respective OT College. Selected pictures will be posted on AIOTA website & social media on 27th Oct 2021. Final decision for acceptance of pictures/video/reels will be taken by the AIOTA appointed committee & their decision will be final and binding.

WORLD OT DAY - 2021

Webinar on Occupational Therapy: A Promising Career Option

AIOTA is organizing a Webinar on World OT Day -2021 (27th October 2021) for teachers, 10th, 11th and 12th class students and their guardians.

The key objectives of this innovative program of Academic Council of OT and AIOTA are:

To sensitize and orient the aspiring students: about the scope of occupational therapy globally, it's unique contribution in the healthcare system and further to guide them to take up occupational therapy as a career option.

The sessions of 1 hour each (inclusive of Q & A session) will be conducted round the clock in various languages (English, Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati, Tamil, Malayalam and Telugu).

There are options for time & languages which one can choose as per their convenience.

The e-certificate of appreciation will be issued to all attendees.

Link to register and more details for the webinar individually or in group is-

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeCg9AxbgHpLmHOnfC5jaRn5_yNEczGtYPPteyhMg9F8NMPpg/viewform?usp=pp_url

STATE ALLIED AND HEALTHCARE COUNCIL

The National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Act, 2021 (NCAHP) came into existence on 28th March, 2021. The Act recognizes occupational therapy (OT) as an independent profession and as a recognized category of healthcare profession. The NCAHP Act provides the recommendation with regulations for formulation of State Allied & Healthcare Professions Council in all states of India: a landmark step towards nationwide regulation and standardization of healthcare professions in India. The initiative has been taken by the Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India vide his letter: *F.No.Z-28016/03/2021-AHS Dated 6th April, 2021* addressed to Chief Secretaries of each States of India, for constitution of State Allied and Healthcare Professions Council within the time frame of six months.

The Section 22 (1) of NCAHP Act provides that every state government shall by notification, within six months from the date of commencement constitutes a State Council (to be called the State Allied and Healthcare Council) for exercising such powers and discharging such duties as may be laid down under this Act. The composition of the State Council is defined in Section 22 (3) of the NCAHP Act. The State Councils will be the key statutory bodies that will carry out most of the functions prescribed in the Act, whether they pertain to registration of professionals, ensuring standards of undergraduate or post graduate courses, or giving various statutory permissions to institutes.

STATE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COUNCIL

The state branches and member of the All India Occupational Therapists' Association (AIOTA) are advised to take immediate initiatives in pursuing the health authorities of the State Governments for an early establishment of State Allied and Healthcare Council. The State Occupational Therapy Council should also be enacted under the ambit of State Allied and Healthcare Council in accordance with the provisions stated in the Gazette Notification for establishment of NCAHP Act 2021.

The list of OT professionals working in the Government and private Sector to State Governments for nomination of occupational therapists (OTs) for the establishment of State Occupational Therapy Council is recommended to be provided to State Health Authorities. The information pertaining to OT education centers, faculty members and clinical OTs, superannuated and /or self-employed in their own clinics and centers in the State should also be sent to State Government for an urgent needful in setting up State OT Council along with State Allied & Healthcare Council.

The State Branches and members of the AIOTA need to ensure their all efforts with a sole aim, that this achievement should

be effectively utilized for the standardization and up gradation of OT in the all States of the country too.

VIDEOS ON OT MODULES WITH KEY RESOURCES AND MCQ'S FOR COVID CARE

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India constituted a Thematic Expert group for COVID-19 training content development. The AIOTA was contacted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for sending its contribution for the development of key modules related to OT in COVID-19. The modules developed by these expert group would be peer reviewed and if approved would be updated on Government of India's IGOT platform. It was also made open to all professionals who can get certified and be eligible to work in COVID Hospitals.

1. ADL skills and Energy conservation strategies
2. Occupational therapy for Children with Special Needs
3. Occupational therapy in COVID 19: ICU and Ventilated Patients
4. Occupational therapy for post COVID Discharge Care
5. Occupational therapy in COVID 19: Psychological Care of Patients
6. Occupational therapy in COVID 19: Grief Counseling

The modules including the Video, PPT, Key Resources, MCQs were prepared by Dr. Neeraj Mishra in consultation with the Academic Council of Occupational Therapy (ACOT) team and inputs from Dr. Jyothika N. Bijlani and Dr. Abhinav Mishra were sent to the ministry.

VIRTUAL OTICON'2022

OTICON'2021: the 58th annual national conference of AIOTA organized for the first time on virtual platform, proved to be a grand success with great experience of online learning. This first ever virtual conference with national and international faculties received overwhelming response by the members and the participants.

Considering the current Pandemic situation, the Executive Committee of the AIOTA decided to conduct the 59th annual national conference of AIOTA: 'OTICON'2022' also as the virtual conference from 11th - 13th March, 2022. The responsibility is provided to the younger generation to take up lead in organizing this conference with the recommendation to explore the possibility of organizing a hybrid conference provided the pandemic situation improves. Dr. Lakshmanan Sethuraman, Executive Editor IJOT (Bengaluru) is the Organizing Secretary while Dr. Muralikrishnan S. (Chennai), Executive Member of the AIOTA will be the Chairperson, Scientific Program Committee of OTICON'2022. The theme of OTICON'2022 is 'Unmask the Masked Potential: Occupational Therapy Perspective' Conference flyer with the detailed information on conference dates, theme, call for

abstracts, registration information will be available soon on the conference pages of the AIOTA web portal: <https://www.aiota.org/>

AIOTA ACCREDITATION TO MAHATMA GANDHI OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY COLLEGE, JAIPUR

On recommendation of the ACOT, the AIOTA has approved temporary accreditation to Bachelor & Masters in Occupational Therapy (BOT & MOT) programs of Mahatma Gandhi Occupational Therapy College, Jaipur at Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology, Jaipur. The accreditation of UG & PG Programs is based on the report of Scrutiny Committee of the ACOT. The Virtual Inspection of the MGOTC, Jaipur was carried out on 28th July, 2021. The temporary accreditation granted to the BOT & MOT Program of MG OT College, Jaipur is for a period of 1 year, effective from 1st August, 2021 to 31st August, 2022.

THE AIOTA CERTIFICATION FOR ERGONOMICALLY DESIGNED PRODUCTS

The AIOTA certification for ergonomically designed varied ranges of furnitures (office, education, healthcare, modular etc.) are provided to the original manufacturing industries with minimum five years of establishment, after carrying out inspection by duly constituted two members Inspection Committee for verification as per laid down norms. The certificate issued for the first time has validity period of one year. Certificates are renewed after verification of compliance of modifications on suggestions by Inspection Committee. However according to the revised guidelines the validity period of Renewed Certificate is now two years in place of earlier provision of one year. Dr. Shashi Oberai (Navi Mumbai) has been designated as Convener, Officer In charge and Dr. Satish S. Maslekar (Aurangabad) is the Co-Convener of AIOTA Ergonomic Certification Committee

Till August, 2021 following industries are registered with the AIOTA after issuance of Certification for one or other ranges of furniture and many more are under the process of registration:

1. Godrej Interio, Mumbai
2. Geeken Seating Collections Private Limited, Gurugram
3. Durian Industries Private Limited, Mumbai
4. Bonton Technomake Private Limited, Indore
5. Delite Hi-tech Furniture Industries Private Limited, Alwar
6. Twenty First Century Techno Products Private Limited, (Stellar Brand), Indore
7. Nil Kamal Limited, Mumbai
8. Spacewood Furnishers Private Limited, Nagpur
9. Methodex Systems Private Limited, Indore
10. Impression Furniture Industries Private Limited, Bhopal
11. Promark Techsolutions Private Limited, Ropar
12. Saryu Seating Co., Manesar, (Haryana)
13. HOF Furniture System Private Limited, Ahmedabad
14. Featherlite Products Private Limited, Bengaluru

15. Featherlite Office Systems Private Limited, Ramanagar, (Karnataka)
 16. AFC Systems, Greater Noida
 17. Jalaram Steel Furniture Private Limited, Surat
 18. Amardeep Designs India Private Limited, Mumbai
 19. Parin Furniture Limited, Rajkot
 20. Eros Industries, Nagpur
 21. Decor Modular Systems Private Limited, Delhi
 22. Anmol Enterprises, Lucknow
 23. PEEVEE Enterprises (Visaavaa Brand), Lucknow
 24. Adarsh Infrainterio Private Limited, Mumbai
- Information pertaining to registered industries is also available on the AIOTA website: <https://www.aiota.org/>

WHA RESOLUTION ON 'ENSURING ACCESS TO QUALITY REHABILITATION

World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) is working in collaboration with the Global Rehabilitation Alliance to advocate for a World Health Assembly (WHA) Resolution on 'Ensuring Access to Quality Rehabilitation'. The purpose of the proposed resolution is to recognize and respond to global unmet needs for rehabilitation, and provide a strong political framework for the World Health Organization (WHO) Rehabilitation 2030 Call for Action. In concert with other WHA resolutions relating to assistive technology (2018) and a global disability action plan (2021), the proposed resolution would commit WHO Member States to ensure rehabilitation is integrated into health systems by allocating adequate funding and covering essential packages of rehabilitation services. Engagement of all relevant stakeholders will be integral to develop rehabilitation services that are acceptable and accessible for all. WFOT Member Organizations interested in becoming involved in advocacy relating to the proposed resolution at the WHO Member State level are requested to contact WFOT at admin@wfot.org for coordination and support.

WFOT INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS AND EXHIBITION 2022

WFOT International Congress and Exhibition will be held from 27th (Sunday) - 30th (Wednesday) March, 2022 in Paris, France. WFOT International Congress is held every four years and brings together occupational therapists, assistants and students from across the globe to develop professional fellowship, exchange technical and scientific information and to promote high standards of occupational therapy practice, research and education worldwide. The 2022 congress will feature unique social events, local tours, an extensive exhibition and program of expert presentations on the 2022 theme "*Occupational R-Evolution*". The theme chosen will explore the continuing advancements in occupational therapy, and in our world, and highlight the leadership of our profession for navigating the dynamics of change. Call for papers will open in 2020, and registrations in 2021. For

the latest updates, and check back with the WFOT website regularly. The Congress will be a hybrid event, enabling to attend in-person or online.

WORLD OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DAY 2021

WFOT has launched World Occupational Therapy Day 2021 (27th October) with an aim to promote the power of diversity and inclusion to work together to build community and resilience. WFOT has extended invite to the global occupational therapy community to work together during this time of challenge and adversity in promoting the theme **“Belong. Be You.”** Promotional materials with the World Occupational Therapy Day theme are being made available on the WFOT website. The World OT Day theme and materials can be used all year long to recognize the importance and value of OT.

AIOTA'S OTINDIA MONTH 2021

As a part of OT India Month 2021 celebration All India Occupational Therapists' Association (AIOTA) is organizing a webinar on 'Occupational Therapy as a Promising Career' for the faculties, Students and parents of 10th, 11th & 12th class all over India. This innovative program will be convened on the World OT Day (27th October 2021 from 9.00 am onwards). The webinar will have twelve sessions in different regional languages. Each session is designed for one hour inclusive of question and answer session

The objectives of this event are to orient & sensitize the teachers, students, parents about the scope of occupational therapy globally and its unique role in healthcare system and also guiding the students to take up this of profession as career option. Faculties and clinical therapists from all regions are volunteering for this unique event. Dean ACOT Dr. Jyothika N. Bijlani is convener for OT India month program.

THE AIOTA'S FELLOWSHIP IN ADVANCED OT IN MSK, HAND & ERGONOMICS (FAOT: MHE-INDIA 2021)

After successful completion of the AIOTA's Fellowship in Advanced OT in Neurodevelopmental Disorders (FAOT: NDD) in 2017 & in Neuro-Rehabilitation (FAOT: NR) in 2018, the ACOT is now all set to start "AIOTA's 3rd Annual Fellowship in Advanced Occupational Therapy: in Musculoskeletal, Hand & Ergonomics (FAOT: MHE-India) from 7th November, 2021 - 16th July 2022. Those interested may write to Dr. Jyothika N. Bijlani Dean ACOT, Email: deanacot@aiota.org

PG CERTIFICATE COURSE IN NEURO & MSK REHABILITATION

'12 Weeks Post Graduate Certificate Course in Advanced OT in Neuro & Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation' began from 5th July,

2021 at Jupiter Hospital. AIOTA has collaborated with Jupiter Hospital, Thane for convening of this academic program for members of AIOTA.

THE INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER OF AIOTA

The International Chapter AIOTA is constantly involved in exploring professional development opportunities to ensure the continual development of occupational therapists involved with the chapter.

The chapter is making all efforts to provide informative, innovative and evidenced-based continuing professional development opportunities for the members with an aim to promote lifelong learning, knowledge-sharing and skill development. The International Chapter AIOTA has arranged series of workshops, webinars and other events during 2020-2021 in close collaboration with ACOT to help inform and refresh the knowledge and skills of those practicing occupational therapy across the globe. Recently the Chapter has also decided to sponsor grant of INR 10000/- each for 2 PG students of GMC Nagpur for their research projects. Dr. Vijay Suple (Canada) is Convener of International Chapter. The winners of 2021 Scholarship are:

Post Graduate Category (Sponsored by Dr. Vijay Suple, Windsor Canada)

Project Title - 'Effectiveness of Instrument Assisted Soft Tissue Mobilization versus

Proprioceptive Neuromuscular Facilitation Techniques along with Static Stretching to Improve Hamstring Flexibility: A Randomized Clinical Trial'

1. Dr. Vaishnavi Joshi (GMC Nagpur)
2. Dr. Janki Parekh (GMC, Nagpur)

Undergraduate Category (Sponsored by Dr. Ashok Jain, Scarborough Ontario Canada)

Project title: "Job satisfaction levels in budding Occupational Therapists working in different set ups across India"

1. Ms. Lakshita Jaya (SVNIRTAR, Cuttack)

Information

Dr. Vijay Suple

Convener International Chapter of AIOTA

Email: vsuple@yahoo.com

AOCNR 2021 AIOTA SYMPOSIUM ON 'OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERVENTION IN DEMENTIA'

Indian Federation of Neuro-Rehabilitation (IFNR) has hosted the multi-disciplinary academic event for Neuro-Rehabilitation specialists: The Asia Oceanian Congress of Neuro-Rehabilitation 2021 (AOCNR'2021) from 6th to 8th August, 2021 on virtual platform. The AIOTA has accepted to be the supporting organization for this event. On request

of the IFNR a 90 minutes parallel session on “Occupational Therapy Intervention in Dementia” with national and international resource faculties was convened on 8th August from 12.00-1.30 pm.

Chai Chuah, Formerly Director-General of Health, Wellington, and (New Zealand) was the Principal Speaker. Prof. Sally Bennett (Australia), Sebestina D’Souza, MAHE, (Manipal), Maria-Scott, Multani (New Zealand), Gazala Makda (United Kingdom) and Dimple Dawar Christian Medical College & Hospital (Ludhiana) were the expert faculties. Ex-Officio AIOTA EC Dr. Shashi Oberai was designated as Convener & Coordinator of this event in collaboration with Dr. S. Murali Krishnan EC Member AIOTA. Thanks to Dr. Harsh Vardhan (New Zealand) for his valued cooperation in recommending faculties for this symposium. . The symposium was not just well attended but also well received and appreciated by the delegates from India and overseas.

HARSH VARDHAN APPOINTED FOR NATIONAL ROLE IN HEALTH MINISTRY IN NEW ZEALAND

Dr. Harsh Vardhan a member of AIOTA working in New Zealand, has been given responsibility as a public/civil

service official in the capacity of Program Manager, Family and Community Health Population Health and Prevention at Ministry of Health, New Zealand in June 2020 .This is a national role to provide management and leadership to support the government’s priorities; inform decision making and the setting of the Ministry’s strategic direction for population health. Additionally he also has been given the responsibility to lead the national FASD (Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder) action plan / program and related proceeds of crime funded initiatives. Harsh Vardhan is also President of OTNZ-WNA. He always has been very active and cooperative for AIOTA academic and professional activities.

WEBINAR ON STRESS MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

Outreach and Drop in Centre (ODIC) Puducherry and Bharathamatha IRCA has jointly organized an online free weekly webinar on Stress Management Techniques which opened on 26th June 2021 on International Day of Drug Abuse. The webinars (9 days) were organized on every Saturday afternoon between 3-4 pm during the period 26th June 2021 - 21st August 2021. Dr. M. Ramakrishnan, occupational therapist at Puducherry was also one of the key resource persons.

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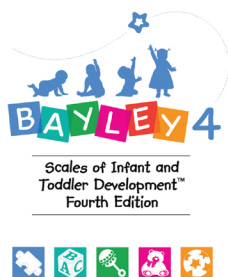
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Age Range:
16 days to 42 months



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