European Delirium Association

On November 1st and 2nd 2018 in Utrecht Christian Pozzi and Alessandro Morandi (head of the research group, geriatrician and past president of the European Delirium Association-EDA) attended the annual meeting of the EDA. We presented the preliminary data of the possibility to perform occupational therapy (OT) in people with delirium and dementia in nursing home settings. In 2017 (Oslo - Norway), 2016 (Valmour - Portugal) and 2015 (London - UK) the research group had participated to the EDA annual meetings to present data collections on the application of OT and care of the person with delirium in rehabilitation settings.

The idea of our current research focus was born studying the scientific background (Rains 2017, Alvarez 2017, Pozzi 2017, Schweickert 2009) supporting the role of OT in the treatment of patients with delirium in intensive care units. The group has designed preliminary studies in a different population and the current data support the following main points:

- Occupational therapy with people with dementia and delirium is feasible.
- Interdisciplinary teamwork with the presence of the occupational therapist who is involved in geriatrics could improve rehabilitation outcomes.

During the conference in Utrecht, Christian Pozzi presented, in the poster session, the preliminary results of the research "The feasibility of an occupational therapy intervention in people with delirium and dementia in nursing home settings" carried out at the NH of Suzzara (Italy). He was awarded for one of the best poster presentations for the novelty of his research. COTEC supported the idea of the OT working with persons with delirium in a multidisciplinary team by promoting the writing of a position paper – currently under review- on this subject. Verena Tatzer and Maria Garcia Carpena have collaborated to this work. In the future COTEC representatives will be able to attend the EDA 2019 congress (Edinburgh, 5 and 6 September 2019) in an invited symposium to increase the awareness of the multidisciplinary work in persons with delirium and especially with dementia. It will also be interesting to further increase the visibility of this project at the European congress COTEC in Prague 2020 (https://www.cotec-enothe2020.com/)

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