

National News



News from NBFE-FNBE (soon Ergotherapy Belgium)

The Belgian OT association NBFE-FNBE (soon Ergotherapy Belgium) and its regional associations Union Professionnelle des Ergothérapeutes (UPE) and Ergotherapy Vlaanderen (EV) are proud to announce the online start of the first Belgian online patient file, designed by occupational therapists, for occupational therapists.

This was made possible thanks to the cooperation of the IT company Q-Top, which has made the tool OT-Pro compliant with modern IT requirements and the Belgian regulations.



OT-PRO

OT-PRO: a revolutionary, innovative digital tool for and by occupational therapists.

This digital tool was built in association with the University College PXL. It makes the creation of an occupational patient file through the OT way of clinical reasoning. By choosing a target group, the system filters the possible ICF-coresets and automatically suggests a clear questionnaire in domains throughout the coresets.

<https://www.ot-pro.com/en/>

Introduction

From the WHO, but also from Europe, governments emphasize the importance of evidence-based practice in occupational therapy. Furthermore, the use of the ICF as a common tool across disciplines is emphasized.

Objectives

OT-PRO is a digital tool that is therapeutically based and was developed in cooperation with the OT research center of the University College PXL. The tool guides clinical reasoning and enables evidence-based practice. It is based on the ICF and helps to register and describe the different aspects of the functioning of the client, to set goals, and map out an internal intervention process.

Method/approach

This presentation demonstrates the practical use of the tool. The importance of ICF-coresets will be demonstrated throughout several clinical cases from elderly care, physical rehabilitation, and developmental disorders.

Results and or practice implications

Statistics and reporting can be drawn through the system of uniformed registration. How many treatments and how much time does it take each classification of the human functioning to arrive at which result? This will lead to improving treatment methods.

The tool was launched beginning of 2021 and will have to reach a critical number of users before measurements can take place.

We use the tool to produce reports and follow-up, clearly and unambiguously described for each care provider. This multidisciplinary collaboration will lead to more effective treatment.

Conclusion

The quality of occupational therapy services will increase this is the only reason for the existence of OT-Pro.

For report,
Pierre Seeuws
Co-President NBF-EFNBE (soon Ergotherapie Belgium)
WFOT-delegate Belgium



AOTI
Association of Occupational
Therapists of Ireland

News from the Association of Occupational Therapists of Ireland

In 2019, the AOTI proudly published its LGBT+ Awareness and Good Practice Guidelines – a resource dedicated to supporting occupational therapists to learn more about the issues affecting the LGBT+ community, and how therapists can ensure that their Occupational Therapy practice is inclusive of all gender identities and sexual orientations. Since their publication, the guidelines have been widely shared and utilised by occupational therapists both nationally and internationally, with hugely positive feedback received.

We are delighted to share the news that the AOTI's LGBT+ Awareness and Good Practice Guidelines have now been translated and adapted for use by Greek occupational therapists, thanks to the dedicated work of Panos Papakonstantinou and Dr. Panagiotis Siaperas, with the support of the Panhellenic Association of Occupational Therapists. Panos and Panagiotis recognized the need for

further conversation and attention to be given to LGBT+ issues in their Greek national context, and so approached the AOTI to propose translating these guidelines. They were supported in their work by Chairperson of the Gender & Sexuality in Occupational Therapy Advisory Group (GSOTAG), Niall Kirrane, as well as Chief Strategy Officer of the AOTI, Odhran Allen.

This collaboration between Irish and Greek occupational therapists and their professional associations, offered a chance to learn more about Occupational Therapy in each other's countries. Fruitful discussions were had about how the historical and social contexts of each country have shaped the treatment of LGBT+ people today, especially in the healthcare area. It is hoped that these guidelines will now equip Greek occupational therapists with greater knowledge and confidence to work with their LGBT+ clients, and positively influence healthcare experiences and outcomes for LGBT+ clients accessing Occupational Therapy services in Greece. Furthermore, it is hoped that this collaboration will be the first of many, and the AOTI's GSOTAG is delighted to see other Occupational Therapy associations around the world prioritise the important subject of LGBT+ inclusive practice.

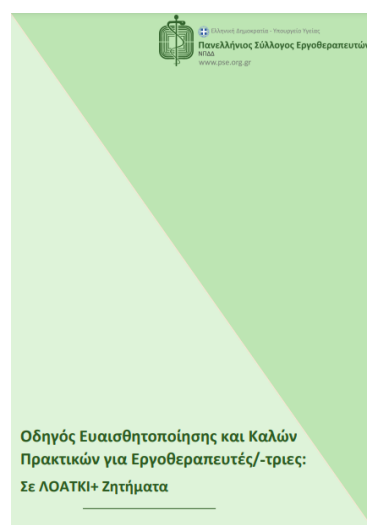
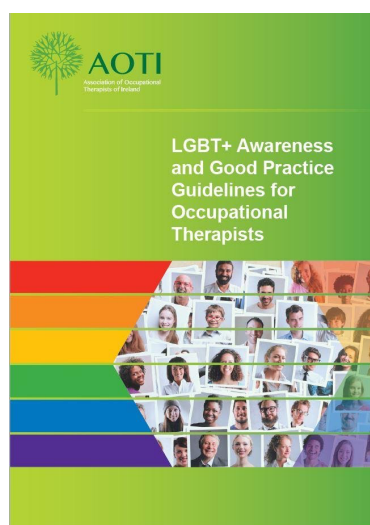
June is LGBT+ Pride month in Ireland, so from all of us here in the AOTI and the Gender & Sexuality in Occupational Therapy Advisory Group, we wish you all a very happy Pride!

To access the AOTI's freely available LGBT+ Awareness and Good Practice Guidelines, or to find out further information about their Gender & Sexuality in Occupational Therapy Advisory Group, please visit:

<https://www.aoti.ie/advisory-groups/Gender-Sexuality-in-Occupational-Therapy-Advisory-Group>

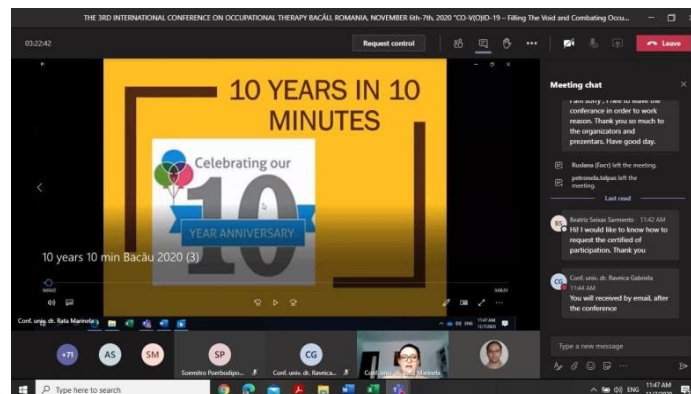
To access the newly published Greek LGBT+ Awareness and Good Practice Guidelines, please visit:

<https://pse.org.gr/pse-news-5796.htm>



News from the Association of Bulgarian Ergotherapists (ABET)

10 years Association of Bulgarian ErgoTerapists!



In 2020 the OT professional associations in Romania and Bulgaria celebrated the 10th anniversary of their foundation. We started together and continuously support each other! In honor of the anniversary and the World Occupational Therapy Day, the Association of Bulgarian Ergotherapists launched two initiatives that take place regularly since October 2020:

The Hour of Occupational Therapy – every last Thursday of the month at 6 pm there is an open conference call addressed to anyone, who is interested or has questions about Occupational Therapy. During these meetings occupational therapists and students promote the profession to the general public, present opportunities for bachelor and master degree education and the application procedures, and meet with students and practitioners.

The Hour of the Occupational Therapist – every second Thursday of the month at 6 pm there is an open virtual meeting for members of ABET, where everyone can share experiences, ask questions or just meet with colleagues.

Here's how, step by step, every second Thursday of the month we build a community of practice in occupational therapy. The beginning is set, bringing each member an incredible sense of belonging to the community of occupational therapists in Bulgaria!

