Occupational Therapy and Older People: Assessment and Evaluation of Health and Well-being

Given the increasing numbers of older people within the population, occupational perceived quality of life (Horowitz and Chang 2004). The UK government also proposes that health professionals working with older people should be involved with promoting healthy lifestyles, following appropriate assessment of individual needs (DOH 2002 and 2006).

The Health Professions Council (2007) directs that occupational therapists need the skills to select and use appropriate assessment techniques in order to establish effective interventions (HPC 2007). Additionally, occupational therapists are expected to provide interventions that are current, effective and based on the best available evidence (College of Occupational Therapists Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct 2005). This is endorsed by the Health Professions Council (2007) who also states that occupational therapists should be able to evaluate research and other evidence to inform their practice.

The aims of this workshop are to consider the role of OT regarding the health and well being of older people, to present an evidence base to support efficacy of a range of occupational therapy interventions used with older people and present a range of tools that can measure and evaluate health, well being and life satisfaction. Participants will be encouraged to share their experience from a practice setting with older people.

References:


