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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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NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR ALLIED AND HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS BILL 2021

Parliament has passed the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2021 on 24th March, 2021 to regulate and standardize the education and practice of allied and healthcare professionals. The Bill is also notified in Gazette of Government of India on 28th March, 2021. The Commission seeks to setup independent Central Council of Occupational Therapy. Further information available at: <https://egazette.nic.in/WriteReadData/2021/226213.pdf>

Healthcare Professionals: According to the NCAHP Act 2021 the healthcare professionals include: scientists, therapists, or any other professionals who studies, advises, researches, supervises, or provides preventive, curative, rehabilitative, therapeutic, or promotional health services. Such a professional should have obtained a degree under this Bill. The duration of the degree should be at least 3,600 hours (over a period of three to six years).

Functions of the Commission: The Commission will perform the following functions with regards to allied and healthcare professionals: (i) framing policies and standards for regulating education and practice, (ii) creating and maintaining an online central register of all registered professionals, (iii) providing basic standards of education, courses, curriculum, staff qualifications, examination, training, maximum fee payable for various categories, and (iv) providing for a uniform entrance and exit examination, among others.

It indeed is a historical achievement for which the All India Occupational Therapists' Association (AIOTA) has been working with dedication for about last four decades.

The AIOTA in the current scenario is pleased to accept the Bill because all provisions in the Bill by the Ministry of Health are incorporated in consultation with the AIOTA. However, suggestions for further improvisation will be taken care of later, after the constitution of the independent occupational therapy (OT) council under the umbrella of National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill 2021.

OTICON'2021

Covid19 pandemic has given opportunity to organize the 58th annual national conference of the AIOTA as the first-ever virtual conference – OTICON'2021 on 6th and 7th March, 2021. Theme of this event was 'Responding to Challenges in Pandemic: Exploring New Horizons in Occupational Therapy'. Galaxy of national and international speakers contributed emphatically to make it an historical event of the AIOTA. In absence of President AIOTA Dr. Anil K. Srivastava, Vice President Dr. S. K. Meena delivered welcome address. WFOT President Marilyn Pattison delivered Key Note Address titled "Opportunities for

Occupational Therapy Service Provision in the 'New Normal'". Guest and Faculty talks from Kit Sinclair (Hong Kong), Ritchard Ledgerd (UK), Karen Jacobs (USA), Denise Donica (USA), Maude Le Roux (USA), Bhoomiah Dasari (UK) and Harsh Vardhan (New Zealand) were of high educational standards and applauded by the participating delegates. Dr. Jyothika N. Bijlani, from Mumbai, was the Organizing Secretary and Dr. Lakshmanan Sethuraman from Bangalore was the Chairman of Scientific Program Committee of this superbly organized virtual OTICON'2021. From Member Delegates' 40 oral papers, 3 innovative technology exhibits and 5 mini-movies were presented in the conference. Eight occupational therapy colleges participated in scientific events organized for the students.

Following were the recipients of awards and honors for their presentations and displays:

Delegates Category

- Kamala V. Nimbkar Award for Best Paper: **Dr. Noor Mohammad**
- AIOTA Best Paper Award in Neurosciences: **Dr. Aradhana Nayak**
- Vijay Suple Award for Best Paper in Mental Health: **Dr. Saddicha Kamat**
- M. M. Sangoi Award for Best Paper in Ergonomics, Access and Environment: **Dr. Bharti Jajoo**
- Gazala Makda Award for Best Paper in Paediatrics: **Dr. Awasti Deepa**
- Bharati Kirti Patel Youth Talent Award: **Dr. Monalee Niphadkar**
- AIOTA Award for Best Innovative Technology (Delegates): **Dr. Janki Parekh**
- Nirmala Venkateswaran Award for Best Mini Movie: **Goa Medical College, Goa**
- Best Delegate of the OTICON'2021 by Kerala Branch of AIOTA: **Dr. Charmie A. Dave**
- Best Graduate of the Year: **Dr. Shreya B. Gosar, Seth G. S. Medical College and KEMH, Mumbai.**

Students Category

- Best Student Innovative Technology
Winner: Seth G. S. Medical College, Mumbai
2nd Place: L. T. M. Medical College, Sion Hospital, Mumbai
3rd Place: GMC, Nagpur
- Best Poster
Winner: L. T. M. Medical College, Sion Hospital, Mumbai
2nd Place: Seth G. S. Medical College, Mumbai
3rd Place: TNMC & BYL Nair Hospital, Mumbai
- Best OMG Provo Humorous Poster: **D. Y. Patil College, Navi Mumbai**
- Best Student Delegate of the OTICON 2021 by Karnataka Branch of AIOTA: **Devanshi Chheda**

COTE ORGANIZED BY ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF OT OF THE AIOTA

13th February 2021: International chapter of the AIOTA in collaboration with the AIOTA organized webinar by the Academic Council of Occupational Therapy (ACOT) of the AIOTA on “Occupational Therapy: The Integral Part of Virtual Care during Coronavirus Pandemic” **Speaker:** Dr. Vijay Suple (Canada), Convener, International Chapter of the AIOTA

5th March 2021: Preconference continuing occupational therapy education (COTE) on the theme:” Breaking through the OT Practice Challenges”

Resource Persons:

1. Dr. Atul Jaiswal, Health System Impact post-doctoral fellow in Vision Science at the School of Optometry, Université de Montréal, Canada. The Topic was : “Role of Occupational Therapy in Rehabilitation of Individuals with Concurrent Hearing and Vision Impairment”
2. Dr. Namrata Grampurohit, Assistant Professor, Department of Occupational Therapy Jefferson College of Rehabilitation Sciences Jefferson University (USA). Topic: “Computer Adaptive Testing in Occupational Therapy: Innovative Assessments for Tele rehab.”

It was followed by Panel Discussion on the Topic: ‘Skills, Challenges and OT Practices’

Panelists: Saima Wasti (Mumbai) (Topic: New Start up), Dr. Ojaswita Sharma (Jaipur) (Topic: Changing the Mode but Continuing Services, Sports Training), Disha Sanghvi (Mumbai) (Topic: Using Creativity in an Online Platform and Balaji Bhaskaran (Chennai) (Topic: Financial Management and Breakthrough. Moderator of Panel Discussion was: Dr. Manish Samnani (Gurugram), Convener of Haryana Branch of the AIOTA

17th April 2021: International Chapter of the AIOTA in collaboration with the AIOTA organized webinar by the Academic Council of Occupational Therapy of the AIOTA on ‘Understanding Dementia’. Resource Faculty was Dr. Gazala Makda (UK),

THE ASIA OCEANIAN CONGRESS OF NEUROREHABILITATION 2021 (AOCNR 2021)

Indian Federation of Neuro-Rehabilitation is hosting the multi-disciplinary academic event for neurorehabilitation 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 supporting organization for this event. AOCNR’2021 has offered 90 minutes parallel session to the AIOTA with 2 complimentary registrations to President and Secretary of the AIOTA, logo on the website and conference hall as supporting organization.

The conference will be preceded by a day of workshops on 6th August where delegates can get hands-on view of

various state-of-the-art techniques in neurorehabilitation. Highlights of AOCNR’2021 are symposia, guest lectures, E-Posters, Quiz and even a Public Forum for all NGOs and patient support groups from across Asia to join forces and share/disseminate knowledge amongst the patients and caregivers.

Organizing Chairperson of AOCNR2021 is Dr. Nirmal Surya, President of Indian Federation of Neurorehabilitation.

ELECTION RESULT WFOT

Following are declared elected during the 34th council meeting to constitute WFOT Executive Management Team. It was virtual council meeting held on 19th January 2021.

- Samantha Shann (United Kingdom): President (Samantha Shann will also be Program Coordinator Leadership & Advocacy
- Margarita Gonzalez (Colombia): Vice President
- Tracey Partridge-Tricker (New Zealand): Vice President Finance
- Ritchard Ledgerd (United Kingdom): Executive Director
- Marilyn Pattison (Australia): Immediate Past President
- Andrew Freeman (Canada): Program Coordinator Practice Development
- Liliana Alvarez (Colombia): Program Coordinator Research
- Tecla Mlambo (Zimbabwe): Program Coordinator Education

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2022 WFOT THELMA CARDWELL FOUNDATION AWARD FOR RESEARCH

The deadline to receive the applications is the 29th October, 2021. Applications will only be accepted online at <https://wfot.link/thelmacardwell2022>.

Please find attached the guidelines <https://wfot.link/thcguidelines2022> and a preview version of the application form <https://wfot.link/thcapplication2022>

Ritchard Ledgerd

Executive Director, WFOT

Email: admin@wfot.org

WFOT: LAUNCH OF WORLD OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DAY 2021 THEME

The WFOT has launched the theme for **World Occupational Therapy Day 2021** that will take place on the 27th October 2021. This year World Occupational Therapy Day promotes the power of diversity and inclusion as we work together to build community and resilience. We invite the global occupational therapy community to join WFOT during this time of challenge and adversity in promoting the theme **“Belong. Be You.”**

INTELLIGENCE: THE BOOK PUBLISHED BY DR. AMITABH K. DWIVEDI

“The measure of intelligence is the ability to change” - a very famous quote by Albert Einstein. Intelligence is the ability to understand, learn and think. It helps one to learn from experience, to solve problems, and to adapt to new situations. Everyone is unique in their own way and the same is being described by Dr. Amitabh Kishor Dwivedi in his book “INTELLIGENCE”, published recently in the

month of May, 2021. The author has described Intelligence and its role in human development, survival and mastery on environment. Intelligence is not just knowledge; one has to develop intelligence in various domains to excel in life. The book is Dr. Amitabh’s fourth publication. The book looks to be useful for everyone to discover the different intelligent version of oneself. Dr. Amitabh K. Dwivedi, Professor & Dean at Jaipur OT College, Jaipur, is also in Executive Committee of the AIOTA as Executive Member. For more information may contact at Email: akdwivedi123@yahoo.com

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The values you set for development of the profession of occupational therapy in India will always remain with us and in the history of Indian occupational therapy.

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Dr. Om Prakash Singh, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (02.11.1955 to 07.05.2021): Formerly Assistant Professor OT, Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi and Founder of Occupational Therapy College at BHU, Varanasi.

Dr. Ona P. Desai Vyas, New Delhi (12.07.1964 to 22.05.2021): Dean School of Nursing Sciences and Allied Health, Head of the Department, Rehabilitation Sciences, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi; Former, Head of OT School and Centre, L. T. M. Medical College and General Hospital, Sion, Mumbai; Former Executive Committee Member of the AIOTA and Former Associate Editor, The IJOT.

President and Executive Committee

All India Occupational Therapists’ Association (April, 2020 to March, 2024)

SALUTATION TO OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY CORONA WARRIORS

The President, the office bearers, and the executive committee members, acknowledges the valued contribution of occupational therapy Corona Warriors, who lost their lives for a noble cause towards humanity whilst fighting against global health crisis; and those occupational therapy professionals who are proactive by their selfless assistances towards COVID-19 relief funds and meaningful as well as purposeful professional activities, to ease the lives of COVID’19 disease-ridden patients during the world-wide Pandemic situation.

A salute to all occupational therapy Corona Warriors for putting their best foot forward, to keep the professional activities alive, even during the Pandemic situation, and for helping the regional, state and national government as well as the healthcare professionals and healthcare institutions in combating the human fight against the global viral infection, as frontline professionals.

President, Office Bearers and Executive Committee Members (April, 2020 - March, 2024)

The All India Occupational Therapists’ Association

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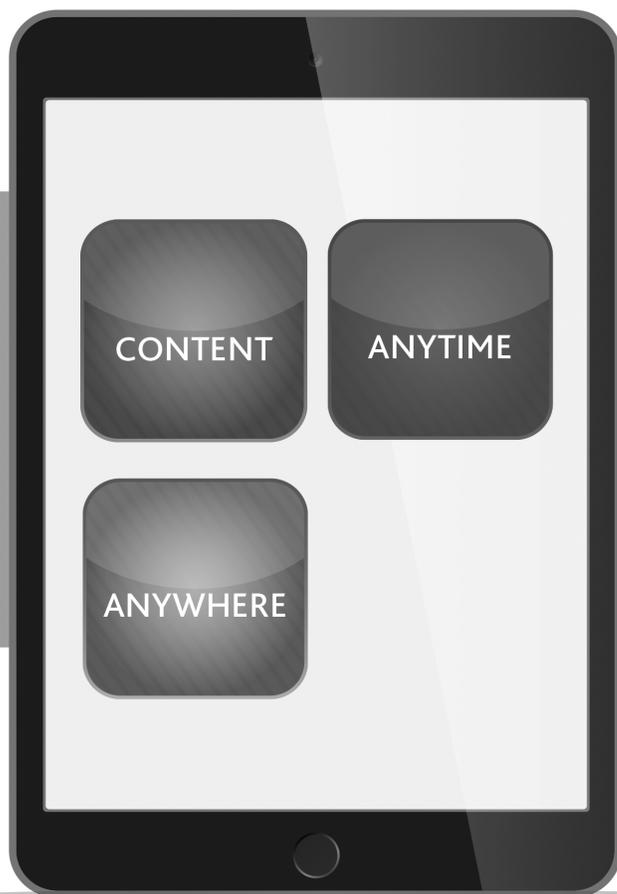
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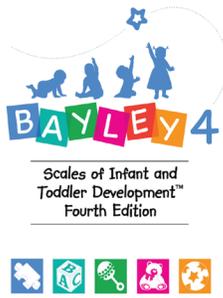
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Editorial

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Systematic Review

Occupational Therapy for Reducing Disabilities in Persons with Disabilities in India: A Systematic Review

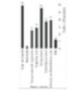


Background: The current evidence for occupational therapy practice, teaching, and research is replicated and implemented significantly from high-income countries in India. Therefore, a system...

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