

SIG Occupation, in-between meeting

Venue: Hakadal, October 12-14, 2017

Topic: The OT challenges in daily practice with PwMS

This year the in-between meeting was organized in collaboration with the MS center Hakadal, Norway. Our local organizer was Inger Grethe Løyning and her team. Thanks to them we experienced warm hospitality, both by the fire pit at the Welcome on Thursday and in the MS-center during working days. There were 11 participants from four countries (Belgium, Finland, Norway and Slovenia), namely:

Hilde Ryg, MS Senteret Hakadal, Norway

Inger Grethe Loyning, MS Senteret Hakadal, Norway

Jeanette Richwood, MS Senteret Hakadal, Norway

Dr Stine Marit Moen, MS Senteret Hakadal, Norway

Line Berthelsen, Stavern, Norway

Jelka Jansa, UMCL Ljubljana, Slovenia

Saskia Van Hooydonk, AZ Klina Campus De Mick, Belgium

Stéphanie Remy, Centre neurologique et de readaptation fonctionnelle Fraiture, Belgium

Marijke Duportail, National MS Center Melsbroek, Belgium

Sofie Ferdinand, National MS Center Melsbroek, Belgium

Tarja Huilla, Masku Neurological Rehabilitation Center, Finland

The theme of the meeting was broad enough to allow us to exchange many ideas, related to our daily clinical challenges in PwMS. The following issues were discussed in-depth and you may also refer to the actual programme of the meeting, being added to the website:

- Characteristics of the upper limb rehabilitation in MS
- Bone health and fractures, relevant for activity and participation in PwMS
- Dilemmas & challenges in OT practice

- The coaching role of the OT Experienced challenges in daily practice to adapt our profession in the current context
- Challenges in the process of change
- Fulfilling our roles in clinical practice
- FACETS – translation and modification of the programme into clinical environment
- The impact of Life balance for persons with advanced MS Update on the LBI study
- Practice Models
- Content for the website
- Position paper about the OT in PwMS

Overall, the meeting was stimulating and allowed enough time for fruitful discussions.

Quotes from the meeting:

“I like the fact to sit around the table and share our knowledge and experience - simple and effectful».

»Sharing the ideas and experiences with colleagues is necessary for developing the OT therapy methods and framework.«

»I found it very interesting to hear about the research on LBI, should start also in Finland«

»Discussion on the topic that OT working as a coach and coaching techniques was very important and Ethical issues- within OT, toos«

»Good to hear all participants engaged in discussions around the different topics.«

»Inspiring to share and discuss important topics related to OT and MS rehabilitation.«

»So much fun to meet around the fire pit Thursday evening.«

The next meeting will be back to back to the Annual RIMS Conference 2018 in Amsterdam, devoted to the theme of the OT intervention across the Lifespan of MS.

Jelka Jansa, Chair SIG Occupation