

In – between SIG OT meeting Overpelt, 21-22-23 April 2016

This meeting has been postponed from November 2015. There were 25 participants from six countries, namely: Belgium, Denmark, Netherlands, Norway, Romania and Slovenia. Majority of the participants were occupational therapist, but also physiotherapists, a clinical epidemiologist, MD and a psychologist. The Scientific programme is attached.

Main points from the meeting:

1) Outcome measures used within Occupational therapy

Nowadays occupational therapist are encouraged to use top-down reasoning and client-centred practice by focusing first on the performance of the meaningful daily occupations and continue with the assessment on the relevant level of impairment(s). Several assessment tools and outcome measures have been presented as well as the way they are used with PwMS. Introduction about statistical properties of the assessment tools has been excellently presented and further to this, the importance about integrating this knowledge into daily OT clinical practice is recommended.

2) OT Guidelines/Recommendations for clinical practice

Brainstorming session about the topic of the providing Guidelines /Recommendations to guide OT clinical practice for PwMS. Members of SIG OT are to be contacted within a month post meeting to bring this topic further. The RIMS group, working on ARM study is willing to assist with the part on the upper limb assessment.

3) Life Balance Inventory (LBI) (Matuska & Christiansen, 2008)

LBI application for RIGRA grant was successful. Interested occupational therapists are still welcomed to join in to the multicentre study project to evaluate LBI.

4) Feed-back evaluation forms:

What have you most valued:

- Discussion moments (formal and informal) with scientific discussions as well as discussions about clinical practice.
- Networking
- Lecture, shared by podcast
- The variety of the background of the speakers: research, clinicians, etc
- Possibility to have valuable feed-back on your work
- Critical thinking concerning assessment
- Open attitude
- Information from the academics
- The visit of the center Overpelt
- Reflections on daily practice, stimulating to continue the daily work with new energy

5) Take home messages:

Interaction between scientific and clinical field is useful and necessary. It leads us to a better OT clinical practice.

Don't just "assess to assess"

Guidelines and recommendations are needed and important. Realistic plan is recommended.

6) Suggestions for SIG OT 2017

MS guidelines: an overview

How will OT outcome influence the content of the therapy?

Sport and OT

The next SIG OT meeting will take place during ECTRIMS-RIMS congress in September 2016 in London.

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