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## **Development of a curriculum for OT students learning about intervention for patients with COPD**

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#### **Introduction:**

Presentation of a curriculum for OT students, University College Lillebaelt in Denmark. The purpose is in cooperation with occupational therapists from a hospital and municipality in the local area to develop and implement a curriculum about occupation, chronic disease and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

#### **Objectives:**

In Denmark the National Board of Health has stated that the objective is to make the patient able to look after himself as well as to make the patient capable of practicing good self care. It is the citizen, his network and healthcare professionals, who must ensure the patient obtains these competences. Occupational therapists can be an important part of this cross-disciplinary team which makes the patient capable of handling a life with COPD.

In Denmark the profession has started developing clinical guidelines for intervention for COPD in hospital and municipality. Patients with COPD are referred to OT, but the OTs still need to implement guidelines to assure that the intervention is based on evident practice.

In cooperation with four OTs from the local area a curriculum is developed.

#### **Description:**

Literature shows that patients with COPD, like other patients suffering from chronic diseases, adjust their lives to their level of energy and capability. They avoid activities and they lose roles and this leads to an everyday life feeling inactive and in some cases also depressed and anxious.

The curriculum is developed to give the students knowhow and skills to work with patients with COPD and to work systematic using national and international literature to assure evident practice.

In the curriculum task-based-learning is used. Groups of students will do assessments, observations and interviews with patients with COPD as well as an interview with an OT. Data is used in the theoretical work related to OT work process models (CPPF,OTIPM), an cross-disciplinary model (ICF) and OT-programs for intervention.

#### **Conclusion:**

The curriculum is implemented in spring 2009.

#### **Contribution:**

The connection between the Occupational Therapy Education and The Profession makes it possible to follow implementation of evident practice through the curriculum.

