

**The Canadian Occupational Performance Measure in Primary Health Care, Stockholm Sweden**

Kerstin Holmqvist Carlmalm<sup>2,1</sup>, Annicka Hedman<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden,* <sup>2</sup>*reAgeraklinikerna, Stockholm, Sweden,* <sup>3</sup>*The County Council of Stockholm, Stockholm, Sweden*

**INTRODUCTION** Occupational therapists (OT's) share a need to evaluate their work and to develop the usage of measure for doing so. There is also a need for developing clientcentered practice to make sure we are doing the right thing for the patients. **OBJECTIVES** The aim of this study was to describe experiences of using the Canadian Occupational Performance Measure (COPM) among OT's working in primary health care in the county of Stockholm, Sweden. **METHODS** A short questionnaire and 3 focus groups were used. The questionnaire was distributed to 153 OT's. Out of the 60 OT's that responded 29 had used the COPM in primary health care. Out of these 10 participants joined the 3 focus groups. Data from the questionnaire was analysed with a descriptive method. The focus groups were analysed such as the authors went through the material separately from one another and then compared the themes that had been found. The OT's experiences were formed into categories and named after contains; OT perspective, patient focus and organization. **RESULTS** The COPM is not frequently used in primary health care in Stockholm county. Conditions emerged that was seen as important for the use of the COPM; motivation among the OT's, knowledge about the instrument, support from the management concerning education and time for practice, and supportive possibilities concerning documentation. The OT's stated circumstances that would make it difficult to use the COPM, such as using it with persons who have problems concerning cognition or communication. They also made suggestions that would make it easier to administrate the instrument. The COPM was consider to facilitate clientcentered practice, to be helpful when structuring complex problems and make the role of OT more legible. **CONCLUSION** The COPM works well for many patient categories and in many situations. Knowledge and support is needed to get started to work in a clientcentered way. **CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRACTICE OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY** The use of the COPM might be promoted by increasing knowledge about the instrument and with support from the management and colleagues. The instrument could be useful for evaluating OT's work and to promote cliencentered practice.