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### **Assistance Dogs as Alternative Assistive Technology Options**

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Assistance dogs are specially trained, around the world, to support individuals with a variety of abilities and throughout the lifespan. Presenters will discuss international cooperation and collaboration efforts related to different types of assistance dogs and how people with disabilities can benefit from partnering with professionally trained dogs in the context of occupational interest, engagement, participation and effects on independence. This poster offers insight into perspectives of client, occupational therapist and of professional dog training organizations and the impact of assistance dogs on everyday life, individual and occupational therapy practice.