

About the need of "the terminal rehabilitation" (in Japan)

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Our hospital is providing a service that is wide from the acute stage hospital to the at-home life. Then, occupational therapists are active in the hospital, the facilities and the home and so on at the various scenes. A author felt the need of "the terminal rehabilitation" to be strong from the experience that an occupational therapy was done at the various scenes.

We occupational therapist exist to make client's life a better thing. However, isn't, well, it here there is a more necessary thing than the physical function recovery and the environmental manipulation for the person whose hour of death is near? I think that is "terminal rehabilitation". For example, a certain person is to keep supporting a favorite baseball team, and another person is that he walks his town where he lived and it is impressed. The words, it is "Seem to be yourself, and live.", and it is "it looks back on its life, a feeling thing" without submitting itself to the difficulty.

As for "the terminal rehabilitation" which a author suggests, it consists of two steps. The first step, Until a client passes away, it is the occupational therapy to lead "a life like that person" more comfortably the life. The next step, occupational therapy can have it feels to be a wonderful thing with the life which one have gone through till now the people whom the hour of death is near at hand to pride. Many occupational therapists have already practiced the improvement in the first-step bodily function and the environmental manipulation. But, still it doesn't grapple with the second-step Occupational therapy which is more step actively in Japan.

Occupational therapist ruminates about the client's life and sympathizes. Then, occupational therapist plans a proper program, and think that the rehabilitation to meet satisfactory death at all is necessary. There is some insurance system in Japan. Occupational therapist must approach in such cases as the body, the mind (religion), the environment, the system after we understand that fully. Therefore, I think that occupational therapist must do "terminal rehabilitation".