

An exploration of Irish Occupational Therapists' Experiences of Client Centred Practice

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Objectives: This research project sought to explore Irish occupational therapists experiences of client-centred practice.

Method: Semi structured interviews were used as the data collection tool. Participants were chosen using purposive sampling. Interviews were conducted with 8 occupational therapists from a range of clinical backgrounds. Thematic analysis was used to analyse the transcripts and data.

Results: A number of themes emerged from the analysis of interview data. Therapists described personal, organisational and environmental factors that affect their use of client-centred practice.

Contribution to the practice/evidence base of occupational therapy

This study reveals that barriers remain with regards the implementation of client-centred practice in occupational therapy settings. Occupational therapists also perceived the importance of client-centred practice in relation to the occupational therapy ethos even though they did cite lack knowledge surrounding the use of this model of practice.