

Enhancing continuing professional development with modern technology and methods

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Introduction: In a healthcare environment that increasingly depends on evidence-based practice, there is a need to use sustainable education methods that provide opportunities for "in the moment learning." Technology and innovative approaches are key aspects of effective knowledge translation in our changing practice environments. **Objectives:** Participants will learn about how technology can be creatively used to support a process of education and knowledge translation related to therapists' use of standardized assessments. **Description:** The long term goal of this project was to facilitate current and future occupational therapists to appropriately select, administer, and interpret a range of standardized cognitive assessments. A group of occupational therapists at a rehabilitation hospital undertook a quality project that developed and applied Kirkpatrick's Model of Educational Outcomes to this goal. The initial step was to establish therapists' baseline knowledge and competency regarding cognitive assessments. Surveys were designed to determine occupational therapists' awareness, use, and clinical reasoning concerning cognitive assessments, and chart audits were used as a behavioural indicator of their perceived competencies. The intervention consisted of the development of educational resources that could be utilized by clinicians in differing areas of practice, with various levels of knowledge about cognitive assessment, and a variety of preferred learning methods. Developed resources included assessment critiques, instructional videos, and a decision-making tree to guide clinical reasoning. These were disseminated via the hospital's intranet. Evaluation followed, using the same methods for establishing the baseline competency. **Discussion:** The results suggested that occupational therapists demonstrated increased competency in ability to select, administer, and interpret cognitive assessments through accessing the developed resources in a timely manner. Due to the large and diverse group of occupational therapists who work in the organization's locations throughout the city, sharing knowledge and resources has previously been too resource intensive and not sustainable. **Conclusion:** The described systematic process utilizing innovative tools and technology is an effective and sustainable method of knowledge translation and can facilitate change in practice. **Contribution to practice:** The effective use of technology to promote evidence-based practice is a necessity in our changing clinical environment and builds upon the learning preferences of today's occupational therapists.