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The CIF in Brazilian Occupational Therapy teaching: an experience at UFMG.

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Introduction:

The World Health Organization's (WHO-2001) health model, establish theoretical discussions in the teaching of Occupational Therapy in Brazil, but the practical application of the classification are still restricted. The fragmentation of knowledge also remains as a challenge for the new curricular structures, a transitional moment from biomedical model to biopsychosocial model. The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) facilitate the implementation of biopsychosocial model integrating disciplines as an educational tool.

Objectives:

Exemplify the practical application of ICF in Occupational Therapy (OT) teaching at University Federal of Minas Gerais (UFMG).

Description/Report:

In OT course program of UFMG, the biopsychosocial model is presented in the first year. In the second year the students are trained in how to use the ICF in the Cinesiotherapy discipline in the ambulatory practice. Emphasizing the functionality, the ICF facilitates the visualization of the transition between activity and participation. In a single case study of chronic pain related to work, the clinical reasoning leads to the integration of procedures in OT: Cinesiotherapeutics for activities, ergonomic analysis to environmental factors, and pain control focal group for personal factors.

Results/Discussion:

With Cinesiotherapy the strength of not manipulative prehension increases from 10Kgf to 13Kgf and reduction of pain from 8 to 6 - activity. However, the result of generic measures of functionality and well-being did not show improvement in participation: HAQ (Health Assessment Questionnaire) from 2.0 to 2.125 and NHP (Nottingham Health Profile) from 20 to 20. The ergonomical analysis of work station by OWAS (Ovaco Working Analysis System) resulted in 3 and RULA (Rapid Upper Limb Assessment) in 7, indicating necessity of work transformation. The patient emotionally fragile started in a group pain control to innovate and strengthen his coping strategies.

Conclusion:

The adoption of biopsychosocial model in teaching of OT by ICF extends the clinical reasoning, helping the transposition of linear thought - heuristic - for the complex thinking - algorithm.

Contribution to the practice:

The application of ICF in teaching process facilitates the network thinking and the integration of different dimensions of OT, areas of knowledge and technical procedures.