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**Occupational Therapy: the admission to the general hospital.**

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The admission office is the information management center for all patients referred to Occupational Therapy treatment. This department also distributes the unit resources for medical assistance purposes.

The admission office initiated its activities with the opening of the Occupational Therapy Unit on July 25 of 1989 (ministerial ruling 00000091455) at the Hospital for Severe Patients General San Martín located in La Plata, Buenos Aires province, Argentina.

The Occupational Therapist role starts with the intervention request (medical referral). He/she assess whether the required treatment goes along the standards for admission to the Severe Patients Hospital. Given the patient's diagnosis and symptoms, the OT professional either admits the patient to the OT unit or refers the patient to other professionals within the hospital, or to other medical institution.

The Occupational Therapist opens the medical history and starts the Occupational profile.

She selects the specific O. T. assessment and organizes the initial support program for the occupational performance. Next, she determines the dimensions of treatment: structure, function, skills and environment.

The Occupational Therapist who performs the admission has experience working with severe patients. She is also able to solve emergency situations related with the human function which interfere with the occupational performance of the patient.

The opening of the admission department denotes the advancement of the occupational therapy practices in the Hospital for Severe Patients General San Martín of La Plata, Argentina.