

**Occupational Practice: History, Future Trends. In Guatemala**

Melanie Girard Bertha Bachelor, Figueroa Veronica Estrada  
*University of San Carlos de Guatemala, San Carlos, Guatemala*

Occupational Practice: History, Future Trends.

In Guatemala, following the polio epidemic, Dr. Miguel Angel Pérez Aguilera, made representations to the Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Guatemalan Social Security Institute, as the departments of physiotherapy, but needed further , occupational therapy and rehabilitation work, creating the services of occupational therapy.

In turn, Dr. Aguilera who had specialized in the field of physical medicine and rehabilitation saw the need to create a school for human resources that could be technically performed in rehabilitation services.

The training of physiotherapists was in the National School of Physiotherapy, facing many difficulties in the training of physical therapists, so a group of graduates of the same, are the private school of Physical and Occupational Therapy, offering training in a curriculum the two races. Rehabilitation services remain focused on the capital city, being the need to train human resources and to open schools in the Republic of Guatemala, there is the race Technician Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy in the city of Quetzaltenango in the Universidad Rafael Landivar, taking the view that the socioeconomic status of the Guatemalan population is poor can not pay two professionals beginning with the decentralization of human resource training and services.

The purpose of this discussion is to make known the history and career development of Occupational Therapy in Guatemala, how has ido positioning in Guatemala through its various programs and what is considered needs to be done, and seeking partners to fight for union the science of missing fields open Occupation according to the felt needs, the position regarding the attitudes and treatment seeking support to improve the status of Occupational Therapy in Guatemala through training of human resources and by partnering with the Confederation World Occupational Therapists.