

## **Translating Quality into Practice: Measuring and Improving the Quality of Occupational Therapy**

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Measuring and improving the quality of occupational therapy (OT) services is critical to ensure the future of the profession. Although the concept of improving the quality of clinical services is not new, the language and approach have evolved. There is a need to build evidence, identify best practices, and develop indicators to improve OT clinical care and outcomes for people with all types of disability throughout the world. The American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) is developing and implementing an OT national quality strategy that aligns with the WFOT quality indicator project.

The purpose of this workshop is to increase OT practitioners' ability to implement OT sensitive quality indicators to improve practice and outcomes. The presentation will begin with an overview of the context of healthcare quality internationally, including a discussion of policies and organizations that have implications for OT. We will summarize the AOTA national quality strategy and OT sensitive indicators that integrate the Occupational Therapy Practice Framework (OTPF). Then we will outline a process to use indicators to systematically improve the quality of OT services across the care continuum, citing clinical examples. Attendees will be given tools to use in clinical practice and provided the opportunity to apply this process to their clinical practice in order to identify and define relevant data processes and outcomes. Approaches for extracting data from electronic medical records will be discussed.