

0992

Meaning construction on occupational therapy process: Contributions from the Brazilian Dynamic Occupational Therapy Method

Tais Marcolino, Debora Dituri, Ana Carolina Mello
Sao Carlos Federal University, Sao Carlos, SP, Brazil

Introduction: Associative Path is an activity analysis technique belonging to Dynamic Occupational Therapy Method (MTOD) - developed by Jo Benetton since the 1970's in Brazil. The technique objective is favoring meaning construction about occupational therapy (OT) process, sustained on a dialogical conversation about activities done on OT process, on a narrative time.

Objective: To understand the technique applicability and the kind of evidence that could be found on publications describing its utilization.

Method: The publications were searched in (a) Jo Benetton's work and (b) Brazilian OT journals. Information about type of publication, characteristics of clients and services were analysed with simple statistics. The descriptions of associative path process were analysed thematically.

Results: We identified 12 case studies, with 16 years the newest client and 67 years the oldest; seven were men and five women, with predominance of mental health issues and different situational problems. The thematic analysis resulted in four themes revealing the meanings constructed by the clients: 1) constructing meaning about themselves in life; 2) filling the daily life with personal creativity; 3) planning the future; 4) recognizing care.

Conclusion: Evidence for practice must not only be sought on standardized researches, but best practices research could inform other aspects of what can and should be considered for decision making in OT, like: what is best proceedings to help our clients to construct new meanings for life? Associative path could compose a framework for meaning construction on OT process, and making room for more research on the issue.