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WFOT International Quality Indicators for Occupational Therapy

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Introduction: The quality indicators project was initiated by the World Federation of Occupational Therapists to define an international set of core indicators that describe quality occupational therapy in an interdisciplinary practice context. The quality indicators are measurement tools, screens or flags that are used to document, monitor, evaluate and improve services. Health professionals, decision-makers and policy-makers are expected to use the indicators to address quality priorities for the overall performance of systems in which occupational therapists practice. A conceptual model with several quality dimensions was first developed to provide a framework for the identification of a coherent, relevant and balanced set of indicators. Core indicators were then selected for each quality dimension to measure the degree to which occupational therapy services increase the likelihood of desired health outcomes and are consistent with current professional knowledge and evidence-based practice. A six-step process was outlined to describe the implementation of the quality indicators in practice. Although applicable to the broad profession, the indicators can be adapted to identify measures that evaluate specific areas of occupational therapy practice.

Objectives: Participants in this workshop will gain knowledge regarding the development and use of quality indicators in occupational therapy practice.

Teaching methods: A combination of lecture, case study presentation and discussion will be used.