

WFOT Congress 2018

Caregivers' Knowledge Attitudes and Perceptions Towards Occupational Therapy in Mental Health Zimbabwe

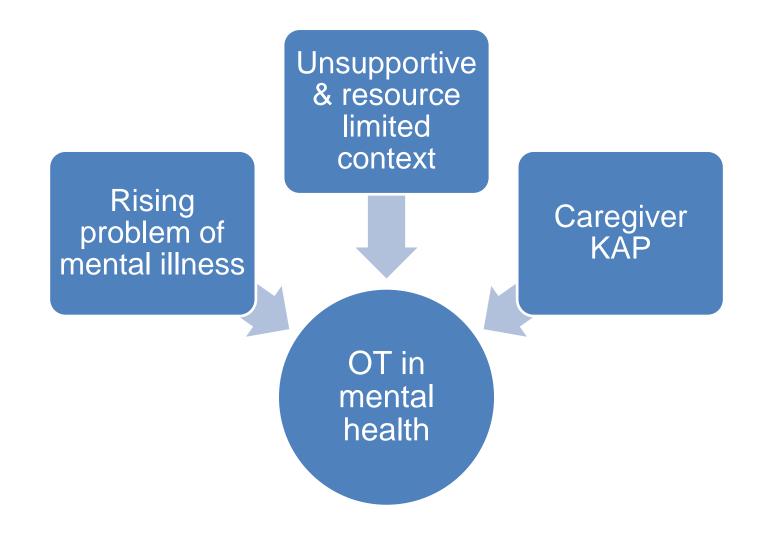
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Background



The Problem

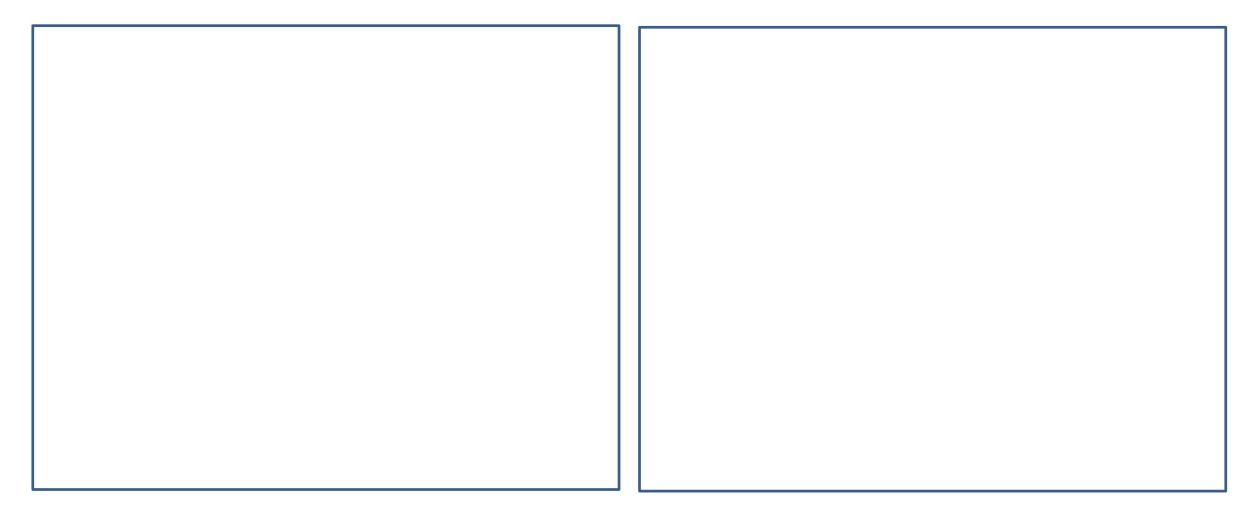
- Caregivers not actively involved in OT
- Knowledge, Attitudes and Perceptions – not known

Research Question?

 What are the caregivers' knowledge, attitudes and perceptions towards occupational therapy mental health services in Zimbabwe?



Methods



VARIABLE	CATEGORIES	TOTAL n=62 Frequency (%)
Age of caregiver	30-39 40-49 50-59 Age range of caregivers	15 (24.2) 12 (19.4) 19 (30.6) 22-73 years
Period of caregiving	<6months Range of caregiving	17(27.4) 3 weeks -15 years
Relationship to patient	sibling child spouse	17 (27.4) 20 (32.3) 13 (21.0)
Diagnosis of patient	BAD Schizophrenia Substance-use disorder	22(35.5) 17(27.4) 15(24.2)
Qualification of caregiver	O' level A' level Tertiary level	23 (37.1) 16 (25.8) 23 (37.1)

KAP Results

Knowledge	42.5% were knowledgeable about OT
Attitudes	64.3% had a positive attitude
Perceptions	87% perceived OT as helpful for recovery

Attitudes

- About 24% viewed OT as of low priority compared to other services
- Attending OT sessions was significantly associated with having a positive attitude (p=0.001)
- About five caregivers who were knowledgeable about OT, still had a negative attitude

Discussion and Conclusion

- Low knowledge levels need for more engagement and awareness raising
- Negative attitudes
- Underutilization of OT services
- Positive perceptions a foundation to build on
- Caregiver support groups
- Further research (caregiving experiences)