

The Ice-breaking Stage of Oncology Occupational Therapy in Taiwan

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Outline

- Introduction
- Objectives
 - Method
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- Conclusion



Introduction

- Cancer has been the top leading cause of death in Taiwan since 1982
- Cancer death account for 27.7% of all death
- The average five-year relative survival rate is more than 60%
- 63% of cancer survivors need for at least one rehabilitation service, and 40% reported unmet need
(Thorsen,2011)



Introduction

- Most survivors in terminal stage still express strong motivation to perform daily tasks or participate in personally meaningful activities. (蘇、李、廖、蘇，2004； Pergolotti, Cutchin, & Muss, 2014)
- High quality care service need comprehensive professional training in continuum care of cancer survivors (Silver & Gilchrist, 2011; Silver, et al., 2015 ;)



Objectives

1. To investigate the perception of practitioner in cancer rehabilitation
2. To find out strategies for practitioners to dedicate in cancer rehabilitation



Method

- Questionnaire survey and focus group
- Five-point Likert scale questionnaire: 20 items, 5 negative items are included
- The respondent rate is 74.56%(85/114)





Method

- 8 experts were invited in this focus group
- 4 OT, 1 PT, 1 nutritionist, 2 social workers
- Interview protocol was developed prior to focus group meeting
- The interview of focus group were recorded and analyzed from verbatim





Method

- Interview protocol:
 - Regarding to the results of questionnaire, what are your suggestions to university course?
 - How to encourage practioners to promote the contribution of occupational therapy and themselves in oncology or cancer care team?
 - Please discuss the strategies to encourage practioners devote themselves in cancer rehabilitation.



Results

- Results of questionnaire:
 - The current health insurance/payment is sufficient to support occupational therapist to implement cancer rehabilitation (2.19)
 - The current work performance reward mechanism make me willing to promote cancer rehabilitation (2.39)
 - I feel professional organization did few promotion in cancer rehabilitation (2.47)
 - I feel that medical team member do not know what occupational therapists can do in cancer care (2.5)

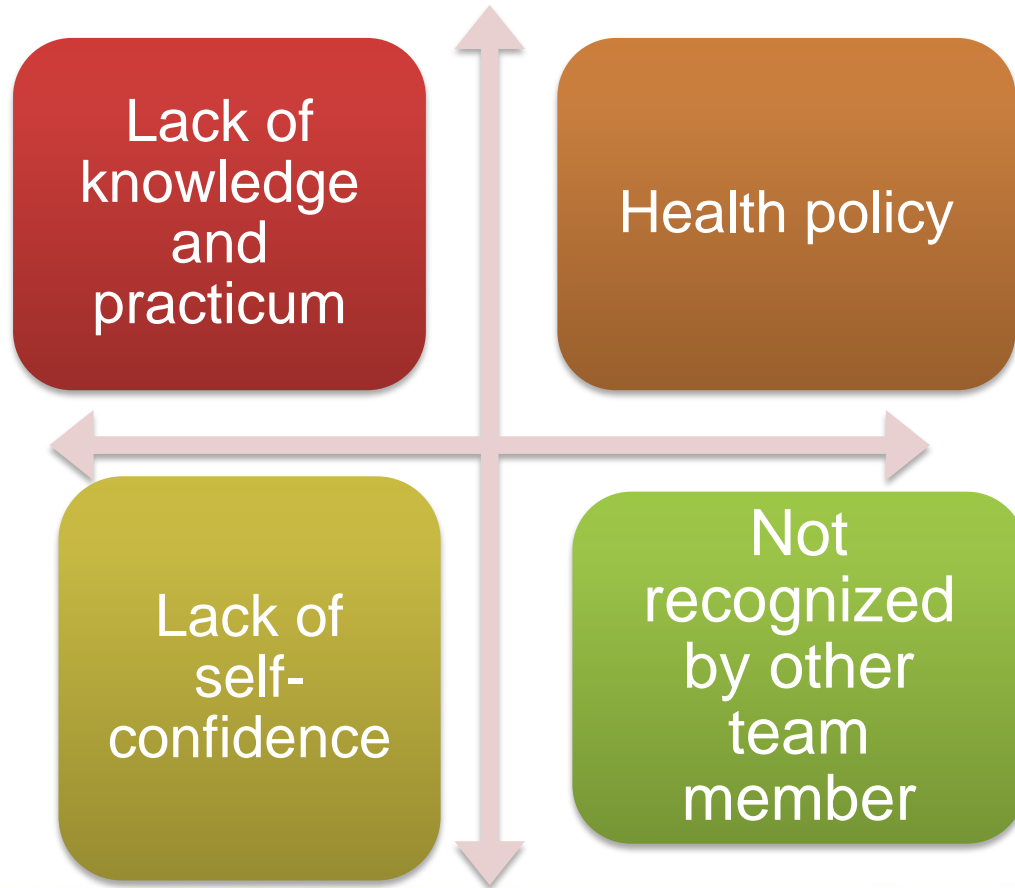


Results

- Results from questionnaire:
 - I think entry-level curriculum contains sufficient basic knowledge and skill of cancer rehabilitation (2.57)
 - I think I have sufficient confidence to promote OT in cancer care (2.7)
 - I think I have sufficient practical experience to care cancer survivors (2.79)



Results



Discussion

Education program

- One independent course in university curriculum
- Co teaching with practitioners
- Contains more proportions of cancer rehab into national examination

Health Policy

- Hospital accreditation system

Interdisciplinary teaming

- Interprofessional workshops
- Self-recommendation in interprofessional team
- To develop guideline or handbook of cancer care for OT practitioners

Professional organization

- Strive for becoming one of committee member in national cancer prevention foundation



Conclusion

- Occupational therapy is the best profession which could provide continuum care of survivors from prevention to palliative care
- This study demonstrated the barriers and the strategies to overcome the barriers
- Professional talent inventory in cancer rehabilitation
- Evidence-based research and practice

Dankie !
Thank you for your listening!
謝謝 !



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