Intensive client-centred occupational therapy in the home improves older adults' occupational performance and is still effective 6 months after baseline

**Results from a Danish randomised controlled trial** 

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# Disposition

- Background
- Aim and main hypothesis
- Methods
- Results
- Strengths and limitations
- Implications for practice and research

## Background

Older adults' impaired occupational performance

Rehabilitative and compensatory services

Lack of evidence concerning home-based, client-centred and occupation-based occupational therapy for older adults with various chronic health issues







# Aim and primary hypothesis

## Aim

To compare the effect of 11 weeks of home-based, client-centred and occupation-based occupational therapy for older adults to the effect of the usual practice of a Danish municipality

## **Primary hypothesis**

The intervention will improve the participants' self-reported occupational performance more than the usual practice

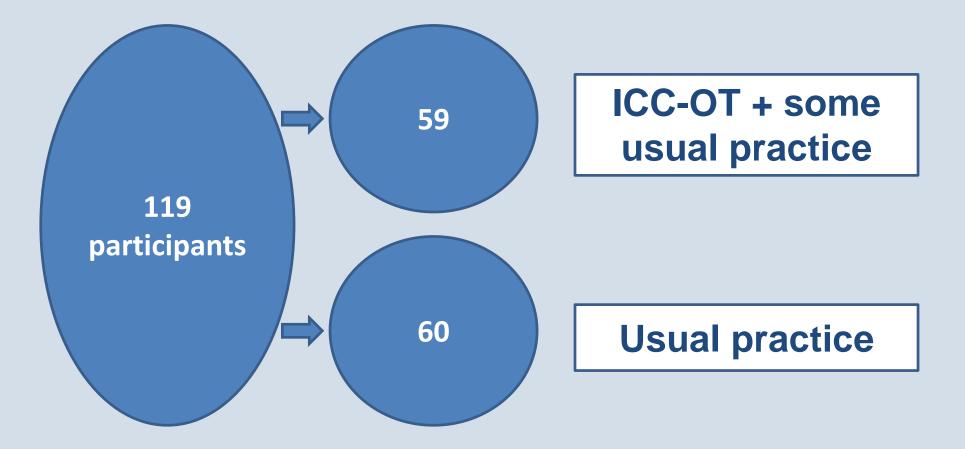
# A Randomised controlled trial was performed

**119 older adults were included** 

Home-dwelling women and men ( 9 72%, 3 28%) Age 60+ (mean 78 years) Danish speaking

Excluded were older adults who had Previously received home rehabilitation Predefined severe diseases Severe pain Drug or alcohol abuse

## **Randomisation to two groups**



# **Usual practice, both groups**

Personal care and practical help

Meal delivery

Assistive devices and home modifications

Physiotherapy



# **Occupational therapy, ICC-OT**

#### Aim

Improved occupational performance



#### Approach Home-based, client-centred, occupation-based occupational therapy

#### Intensity

11 weeks, twice a week, max. 22 visits by an occupational therapist

# **Some in the Usual Practice group** had occupational therapy

## Aim Minimised need for home help

### Appropach

Home-care reablement

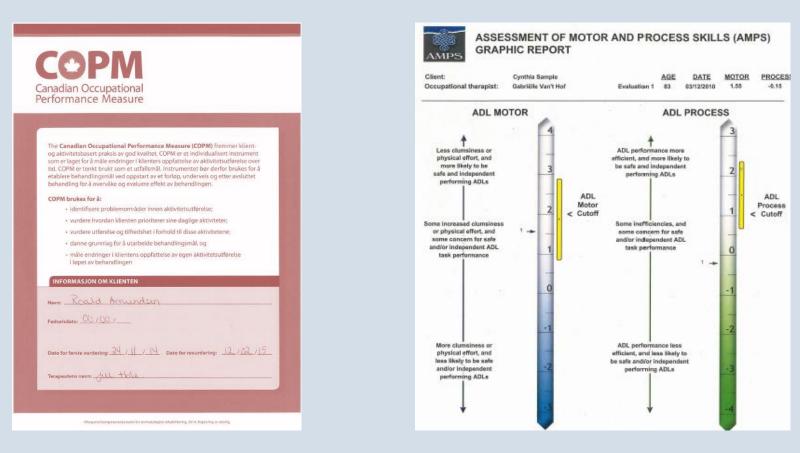
Practicing activities to which the older adult needed home help

## Intensity, occupational therapy

Max 3 weeks, max 3 visits by an occupational therapist



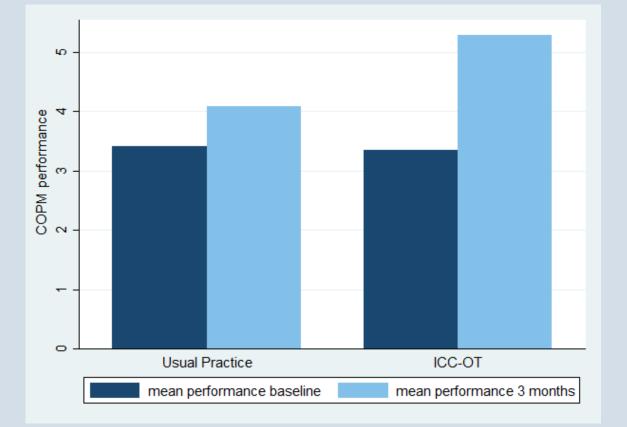
# Assessment of occupational performance at baseline, 3, and 6 months



COPM

#### **AMPS**

# Self-reported occupational performance (COPM) Main result, baseline to 3 months

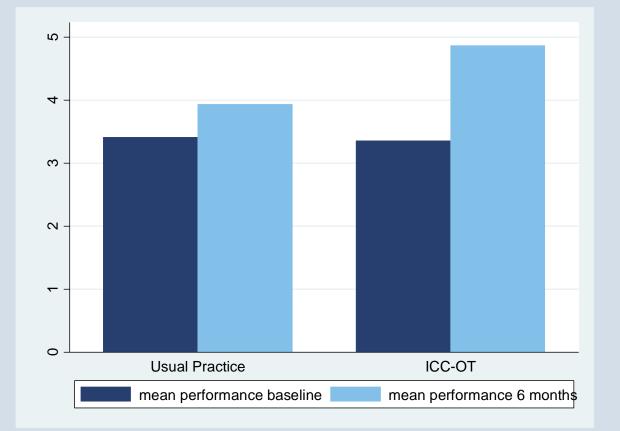


The ICC-OT group Improvement 1.87 points

The usual-practice group Improvement 0.61 points

**Difference in improvement** 1.26 points (95%CI 0.5 to 2.02) p 0.001

# Self-reported occupational performance (COPM) Secondary result, baseline to 6 months



The ICC-OT group Improvement 1.42 points

The usual-practice group Improvement 0.44 points

**Difference in improvement** 0.98 points (95%CI 0.27 to 1.70) p 0.008

# To sum up..

## 3 months after baseline, ICC-OT had effectively improved

occupational performance (COPM)

## 6 months after baseline, ICC-OT had effectively improved

- occupational performance (COPM)
- performance satisfaction (COPM)
- quality of occupational performance (AMPS)

## **Concerning occupational performance (COPM)**

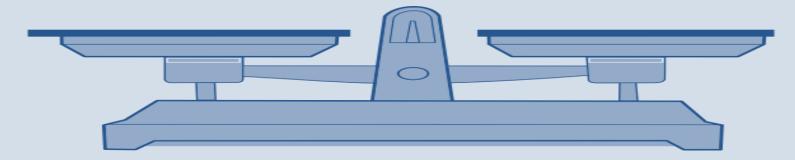
• modest effect sizes and smaller effect at 6 months



## Limitations

Study design Skilled professionals Validated assessments

No long term follow-up All born and raised in Denmark



## Implications for practice and research

Consider offering home-based ICC-OT to older adults with mainly physical health issues

Focus on how to further improve the effectiveness of ICC-OT

Test the long-term effectiveness of ICC-OT

Test the effectiveness of ICC-OT in different populations and health systems

# **THANK-YOU FOR LISTENING**

## And thank-you to

Citizens from Randers Occupational therapists and other professionals involved in the study DEFACTUM, Central Denmark Region VIA University College Health, Aarhus University The municipality of Randers The Tryg Foundation The Danish Association of Occupational Therapists The Lundbeck Foundation

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