# THE USE OF APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY WITH MENTAL HEALTH CONSUMERS — TOWARDS RESPONSIVE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PROGRAMS

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# OUTLINE



Background

Aim and Objectives

**Data Collection** 

**Data Analysis** 

Findings & Discussion

Application to occupational therapists in practice

**Conclusion and Recommendations** 

Acknowledgements

References

# BACKGROUND



- Patient-informed planning of OT services may contribute to improving in- and outpatient mental health services in South Africa (SA).
- Appreciative Inquiry (AI)  $\rightarrow$  found to facilitate recovery in mental illness, as it empowers individuals and creates a supportive, client-centred environment (Clossey, Mehnert and Silva, 2011).
- International emphasis on the importance of patient-perspectives on mental health care users.
- SA underwent a similar transition when the provincial cabinet endorsed health care 2030 (Western Cape Government, 2014).

# AIMS AND OBJECTIVES



To explore and describe participants' experiences of attending an occupational therapy outpatient craft group.

To identify the elements of the group that the participants view as aiding them outside of the group.

Aim: to use AI to explore the perspectives of outpatient mental health service users on their participation in a craft group.

To establish which elements in the occupational therapy craft group promote its success.

# DATA COLLECTION



- The 4-D model of appreciative inquiry was used to explore the views of six participants.
- Participants were selected via purposive sampling.
- Four data collection sessions and one member-checking session of up to 90 minutes took place.



# DATA ANALYSIS



# **Phase 1: Transcription of raw data**

Verbatim transcription

#### **Phase 2: Translation of transcribed data**

Afrikaans to English

# **Phase 3: First round analysis**

- Insert data into WEFT QDA
- Systematic processing of coding the document
- Creation of nodes

# DATA ANALYSIS



#### **Phase 4: Second round analysis**

- Creation of sub-categories
- Group nodes with similar meaning under broader headings
- Merging or diverging of the participants opinion

## **Phase 5: Third round analysis**

Futher grouping of sub-categories

### **Phase 6: Corroborating coded themes**

Scrutinising the grouped themes – representative of the assigned nodes

# FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION



• FEELING ACCEPTED

• I HAVE IMPROVED

# I feel relaxe attending grou

# I feel safe at the craft group

he craft group es me a sense of belonging

- •"There isn't pressure to the thing [craft] perfectly".
- "The group "There is trust". "There is not
  - each other".
  - nice and c "We understar judgement here".
    - •"We are like family".

# I have star think m positive

# The group helps me to clear my mind

# Transference

- "It is a proufeeling".
- "You feel n better, mor positive".
- "It helps with concentration".
- "This is my time".

ne things I make re, I can make home".

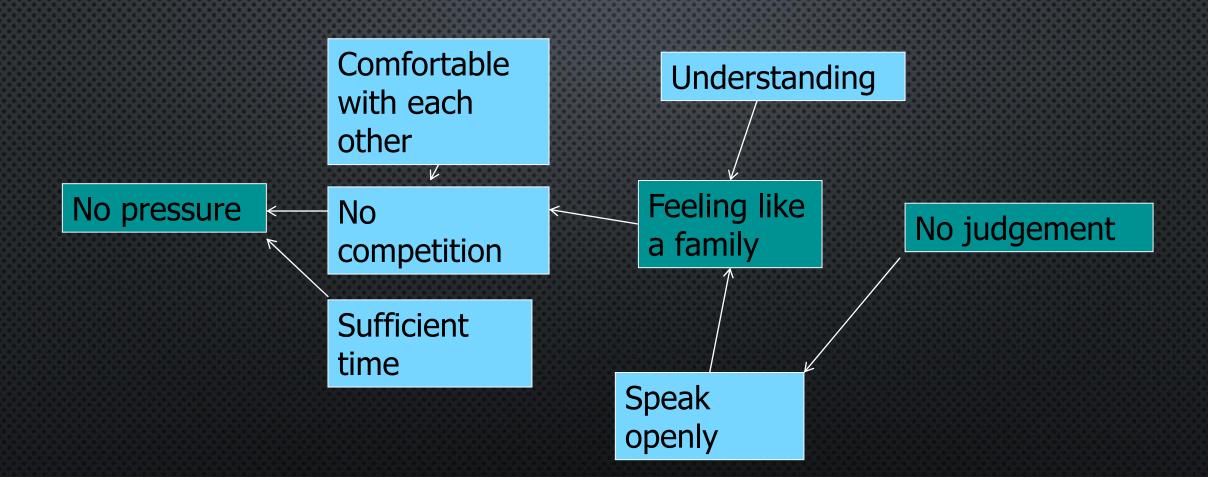
have my stivation back".

# 10 KEY ELEMENTS

- 1. You aren't judged.
- 2. The things that I do here, I can do them again at home.
- 3. There is no pressure.
- 4. It stimulates me to think.
- 5. I can talk to the OT about anything.
- 6. We feel like a family.
- 7. We chat and socialize nicely.
- 8. It is very calm here.
- 9. I feel safe here.
- 10. There is no noise here it is quiet.

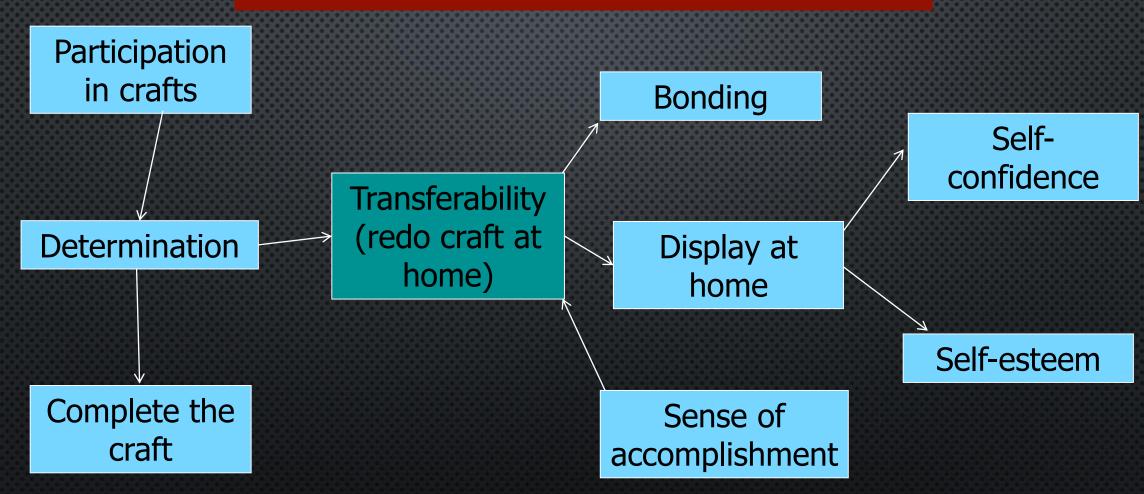
# Feeling Accepted





# I Have Improved





# APPLICATION TO OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS IN PRACTICE



- OTs can monitor and review their outpatient craft group activities through implementation of the action plans developed by the mental health care users themselves.
- AI will ensure that the craft group remains the "best possible version" that it can be and that the group members can be involved in the "brainstorming" and "implementation" of their treatment on a continuous basis.

# APPLICATION TO OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS IN PRACTICE



- Co-researchers could identify elements of an ideal craft group
  - → contribute in facilitating recovery and reintegration into the family.
- 10 group elements can be used as a starting point for further guiding OTs in the design, implementation and evaluation of client-centred outpatient craft groups.

# CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATIONS



- Group elements could be used in strategic planning documents which would hold health care professionals accountable for OT services provided to consumers.
- Future studies using appreciative inquiry within the mental health system.
- Data attained from mental health users is client-centred and allows participants to be actively involved in the research process.

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# REFERENCES



- Clossey, L., Mehnert, K. & Silva, S. (2011). Using appreciative inquiry to facilitate implementation of the recovery model in mental health agencies. Health and Social Work, Vol. 36(4)259-266.
- Western Cape Government Health. (2014). Healthcare 2030 The Road to Wellness. Retrieved from <a href="https://www.westerncape.gov.za/assets/departments/health/healthcare2030.pdf">https://www.westerncape.gov.za/assets/departments/health/healthcare2030.pdf</a>