

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS AND THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION FOR THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES: APPRAISING KNOWLEDGE FOR EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION.

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



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**WFOT**

A portrait of Kofi Annan, an elderly Black man with grey hair and a beard, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and blue tie. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a thoughtful expression. The background is a blurred blue and green.

“  
Knowledge  
is power.  
Information  
is liberating.  
Education is  
the premise  
of progress,  
in every  
society, in  
every family.”

KOFI ANNAN

attn:

# OUTLINE

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- × Introduction
- × Motivation for study
- × Objective of study
- × Relevance of study
- × Research question/hypothesis
- × Literature Review
- × Methodology
- × Result and discussion
- × Conclusion and recommendation

# INTRODUCTION

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- ✘ About 15% of the world population lives with some forms of disability of whom 2-4% experience significant difficulties in functioning (WHO 2011)
- ✘ The global estimate for disability is on the rise due to population ageing and the rapid spread of chronic diseases /NCDS (WHO 2017)
- ✘ Thus ,there is an urgent need for a continuous concerted effort and legal frame work .The united nation conventions on the right of persons with disabilities (UNCRPD) is one of such frame works to address disability.

# UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (UNCRPD)

- ✘ An international human right treaty of the united nation aimed to protect the rights and dignity of person with disability.
- ✘ Adopted 2006 and entered into force in 2008
- ✘ 161 signatories including Nigeria
- ✘ 50 articles and core provisions ranging from basic accessibility and rights to vote .
- ✘ Parties to the conventions are required to promote and ensure the full enjoyment of human rights and equality by PWD



**Map of Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

-  **State Parties**
-  **States that signed but have not ratified**
-  **States that have not signed**

# OBJECTIVE

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- ✘ To appraise the knowledge of OT practitioners on the UNCRPD
  
- ✘ To assess the impact of the level of education of OT Practitioners in Nigeria on their knowledge and awareness of the UNCRPD



# MOTIVATION FOR THE STUDY

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- ✘ Increasing world disability population (Rehabilitation 2030)
- ✘ Sustainable Developmental Goal (SDG 3 )
- ✘ Limited attention on disabilities and rehabilitation in the Nigeria health system
- ✘ Non- involvement of Occupational Therapists in disability Advocacy
- ✘ Lack of disability discrimination legislation /Bill in Nigeria
- ✘ Lack of social protection for PWD in Nigeria
- ✘ Wrong allocation of "disability matters " to the ministry of women affairs and social development .
- ✘ WHO's estimation of Nigeria disability population at about 20% (Lang and Upah 2008)

# RESEARCH QUESTIONS (R Q)

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- ✘ RQ1: Are occupational Therapy practitioners aware of the UNCRPD?
- ✘ RQ2: What is the level of awareness of OT practitioners on the guiding principle of UNCRPD?
- ✘ RQ3: Are OT practitioners aware of the specific provisions of UNCRPD?
- ✘ RQ4: Is there a difference in the level of awareness of OT practitioners based on the level of education?
- ✘ H01: There is no significant difference in the OT practitioners level of awareness based on education.

# METHODOLOGY

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- ✘ Design : Cross sectional survey
- ✘ Population : Occupational Therapy practitioners in Nigeria
- ✘ Sampling: Convenient sampling
- ✘ Sample size: 50(26 Diploma and 24Bsc.)
- ✘ Inclusion criteria : OT practitioners in active employment from two(2) years and above
- ✘ Exclusion criteria: OT practitioners that have not practice actively for one(1) year
- ✘ Instrument : Persons with Disabilities Rights Awareness Questionnaire (PWD-RAQ)

# INSTRUMENT

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- 30 questions were drafted from the 50 articles of the UNCRPD after a thorough review
- Questions were developed into 3-point likert scale options of “Yes”, “No” and “I don’t know” based on the content which were grouped into ;  
**General Awareness, Specific Provisions and Guiding Principles**
- Validated by OT and PT experts (87%) , Reliability: (.867) Gottman split half
- Adopting People with Disabilities Rights Awareness Questionnaire ( PWD –RAQ) for use .

Ethical approval



Development of instrument



Validation of instrument



Sample selection



Distribution of instrument



Collection of data

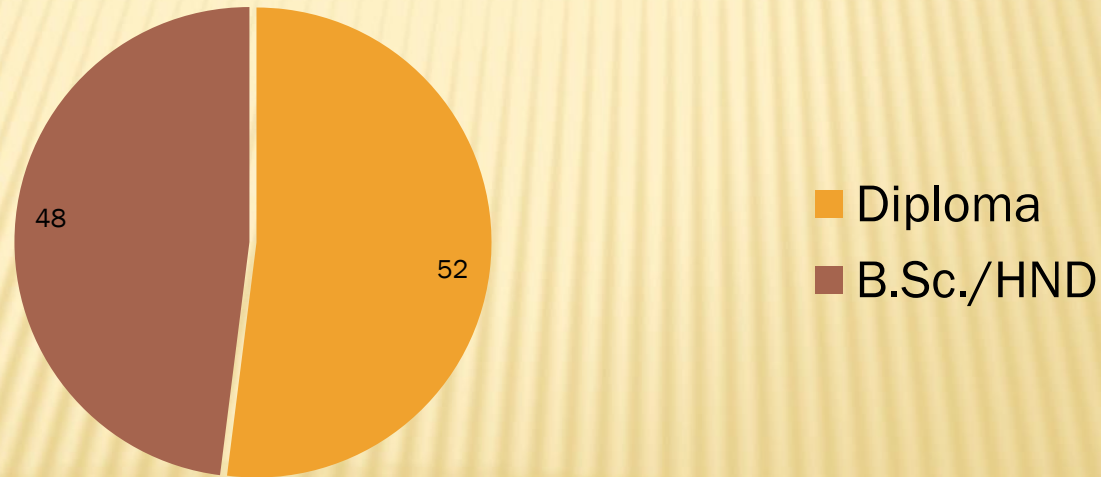


Data analysis

# RESULT

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## Level of education of Respondents



## RQ1

**Table1:Occupational Therapy Practitioners' General Awareness of the UNCRPD  
(N = 50)**

S/N	Questions	Percentage (%) of correct responses
1	The UN Convention on the rights of PWDs is an international law? (Yes)	74.0
2	The convention has been signed for more than two decades ago? (No)	2.0
3	Countries who sign and ratify the convention are not obliged to implement it? (No)	36.0
4	Is Nigeria a signatory to the convention? (Yes)	36.0
5	The convention can bring about a real change for the better in the daily experience of PWDs across the globe? (Yes)	18.0
6	Long term sensory impairment constitutes a disability in the convention? (Yes)	46.0
7	Is Interaction with barriers, hindering effective participation in society implicated in defining disabilities? (Yes)	70.0
8	According to the convention, discouraging Marriage among PWDs whose, disability (ies) is/are arising from hereditary amounts to discrimination? (No)	18.0
9	Modifying or abolishing existing laws, customs and tradition against PWDs are not part of the obligation of states parties to the convention? (No)	16.0
10	Promoting research and training of professionals working with PWDs is optional for state parties to the convention? (No)	34.0
	<b>Average</b>	<b>35.0</b>

## R Q2

**Table2: Level of Awareness of Occupational Therapy Practitioners on Guiding Principles contents of the UNCRPD (N = 50)**

S/ N	Questions	Percentage (%) of correct response
11	Some of the provisions of the conventions may not really be binding on some signatory countries depending on their peculiarity (ies)?(No)	8.0
12	Nigeria as a party to the convention can have an immediate effective denunciation from the convention whenever she wishes? (No)	12.0
13	Disabilities issues with the female gender is specially emphasized and given special attention in the convention? (Yes)	32.0
14	In the convention, is special provision given on the basis of age as per whether a PWDs is an adult or a child? (Yes)	34.0
15	The convention is an initiative geared towards awareness – raising on the need for charity, and humanitarian services for PWDs? (No)	6.0
16	According to the convention, does “accessibility” also apply to information and communication and not just environmental barriers only? (Yes)	70.0
17	Is there provision for humanitarian emergency services according to the conventions? (Yes)	36.0
18	Is treating PWDs with a special consideration when convicted by law in any matter, in line with the convention? (No)	2.0



### RQ3

**Table3: Level of Knowledge of Occupational Therapy Practitioners on Specific Provisions of the UNCRPD (N = 50)**

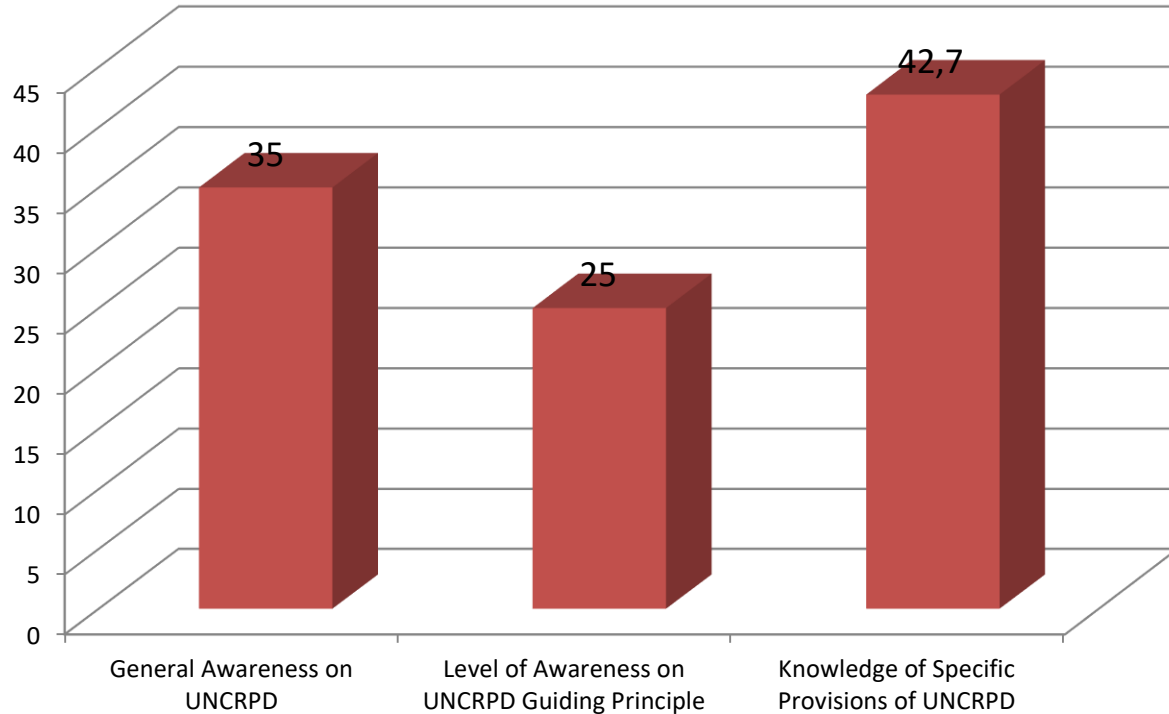
S/N	Questions	Percentage (%) of correct response
19	PWDs are not capable of controlling their financial affairs and properties, hence state parties should provide necessary assistance for them in managing these areas? (No)	18.0
20	According to the convention, is there need to specially train those already working in the field of administration of justice in order for PWDs to access justice? (Yes)	58.0
21	PWDs can be subjected to medical or scientific experimentation, without their approval especially if it is to improve their condition? (No)	66.0
22	Since disabilities differ in forms, every person with disabilities has equal right to respect for his or her physical and mental integrity on an equal basis with others? (Yes)	84.0
23	Is the occurrence of natural disaster well provided for by the convention? (Yes)	22.0
24	According to the convention, children born with disabilities are to be registered when their functional limitations becomes visible? (No)	14.0
25	PWDs are obliged to live in a particular living arrangement provide by the government or other interest group? (No)	36.0
26	Governments are under obligations to ensure training in mobility skills to PWDs and staffs working with PWDs? (Yes)	66.0
27	PWDs are exempted from labour and trade union rights on equal basis with others? (Yes)	18.0
28	In voting, PWDs should be assisted to vote only on their request according to the convention? (Yes)	42.0
29	PWDs are discouraged from mainstream sport activities and are restricted to disability-specific recreational activities? (No)	34.0
30	PWDs are to be included in the monitoring of the process of implementation of the convention despite their disabilities? (Yes)	54.0
	<b>Average</b>	42.7

H0:

Difference in the level of awareness of OT practitioners on the UNCRPD based on level of education

<b>Level of Education</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>Df</b>	<b>Cal-t</b>	<b>Alpha</b>	<b>Sig. (2 - tailed)</b>	<b>Decision</b>
Diploma	26	7.96	5.41					Significant
B.Sc./HND	24	10.92	4.37	48	-2.11	0.05	0.04	
Total	50							

# AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE OF OT PRACTITIONERS



# FINDINGS

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- ✘ Very low general awareness of the OT practitioners (35% correct response )
- ✘ Very limited knowledge of the Guiding principles of the Convention (only 25% had correct responses.
- ✘ Limited knowledge of the specific provisions of UNCRPD (42.7% of correct responses).NB: response is relatively higher ,but not consistent with other responses.
- ✘ Significant difference in the level of awareness on UNCRPD among OT practitioners based on the level of education.

# CONCLUSION

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- ✘ There is marked low level of awareness of legislations and the rights of PWD among OT practitioners in developing countries and this can be a major challenge to the effective implementation of the UNCRPD in fostering the desired change in the plight of PWD.

# RECOMMENDATION

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- ✘ There is need for an urgent effort such as the following in increasing the awareness on Disability legislations;
  - + Regular CPD and workshops on Disability
  - + Inclusion of disability content in the curriculum of OT
  - + Increased commitment by OT association in Nigeria to SDG and Rehabilitation 2030
  - + Occupational Therapist Association of Nigeria should urgently see to the higher education of OTAs in Nigeria
  - + Increased involvement of OT practitioners in Disability Advocacy.



Thank  
you!!