A profile of assessment instruments used by South African occupational therapists in paediatric practice

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2. Problem statement and research question
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ASSESSMENT

- STANDARDISED and NON-STANDARDISED
- Factors affecting choice of assessments
- International findings

IS THE FIRST STEP OF INTERVENTION PLANNING.

AOTA 2014; Rodger 1994:137-142; Brown and Bourke-Taylor 2014:160; Rodger et al. 2005:312; Rodger 1994:137-142; Van der Merwe et al. 2011:3-11; Visser et al. 2012:21-25; Van Jaarsveld et al. 2012:17; Diamantis 2006:284

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PROBLEM STATEMENT INFORMING RESEARCH QUESTION

Research question:

What assessments are used by occupational therapists in paediatric settings in South Africa?

Aim:

To describe the use of assessments by occupational therapists in paediatric settings in South Africa.

Sub-aim:

To compare the use of assessments by South African occupational therapists in private versus public paediatric settings.

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METHODOLOGY

Study Design: Descriptive, cr

Sampling method: Non-ran

Study population: Occupati the Occupational Therapy Association of South Africa (OTASA)

Approved by Health Sciences Research Ethics Committee (UFS)

Inclusion criteria:

Registered with HPCSA

Practiced in RSA >3 months

Worked within paediatrics in the last 12 months

Measurement instrument: Self-developed questionnaire (*EvaSys™),* using literature and expert paediatric therapists

EvaSys Education Survey Automation Suite

Pilot study: 5 occupational therapists, not registered with OTASA, experience in paediatric setting.

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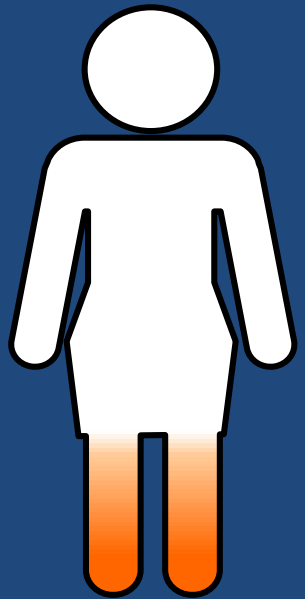
RESULTS

Demographics

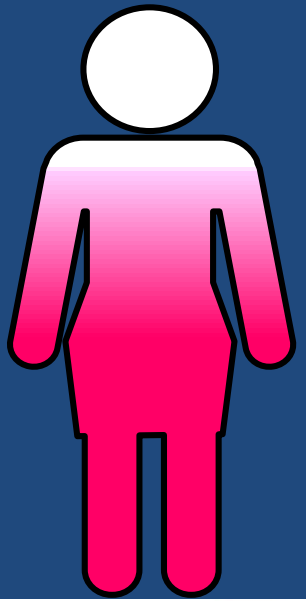
Public Sector
25,2%
(n=31)



Total participants (n=123)

Median = 9 years

Private Sector
74,8%
(n=92)



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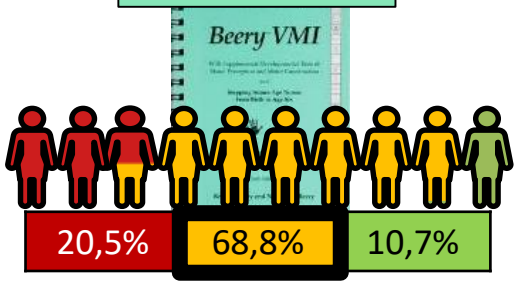
SUMMARY

Assessment	Frequency of use	Characteristics most applicable	Relevant
Beery VMI	Weekly	User friendly	83.7%
Goodenough-Harris Draw-A-Person Test	Weekly	Easily accessible	66%
DTVP-2	Every 2 weeks	User friendly	55.3%
TVPS-3	Monthly	User friendly	52.9%
Sensory profile	Monthly	User friendly	45.5%
SIPT	Annually	Other (expensive)	35.8%
Ayres' Clinical Observations	Weekly	Easily accessible	98.3%
Clinical Observations of Gross Motor items	Weekly	Easily accessible	81.7%

LEGITIMACY OF USE: STANDARDISED ASSESSMENTS

Key:	
	Make copies of manual AND **make copies** of booklet(s).
	Original test manual BUT **make copies** of booklet(s).
	Original test manual AND purchase original booklet(s).

Beery VMI

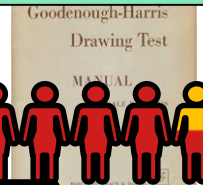


20,5% | 68,8% | 10,7%

TVPS-3

29,9% | 58,4% | 11,7%

Goodenough-Harris Draw-A-Person Test



64,8% | 30,7% | 4,6%

DTVP-2

35% | 58,8% | 6,2%

Sensory Profile

33.3% | 50.8% | 15,9%

SIPT

5,8% | 9,6% | 84,6%

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DISCUSSION

- Similarity → ***national*** and an ***international*** level
- Six most popular standardised assessments used in South Africa → ***not standardised on South African population***…
- Local assessments such as ECDC?

- ***Ethical dilemma*** → **illegitimate use** of 5 of 6 most used assessments

  → brings into question the possible **need** for assessments that are standardised on the South African population

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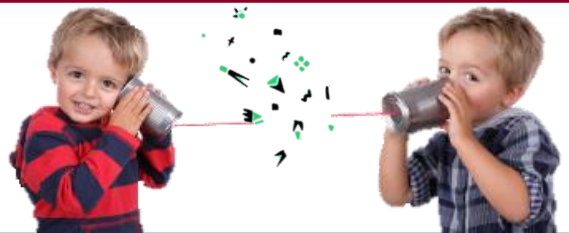

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(Van Jaarsveld, Mailroux and Herzberg 2012:17)

CONCLUSION

- Current practices on a national level
- Need for development of assessments

Limitations

Study cannot be generalized: Specific organisation approached (OTASA) – therefore not all South African therapists were included.

Recommendations

- Expand therapists' knowledge
- Ethical discussions
- Further research

- ✓ Contributes to improved effectiveness of OT assessment and intervention in RSA
- ✓ Enable **legitimate use** in a developing economic climate

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Thank You
Dankie

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